



Do at Home Craft

This week's crafting activity... **Rock Painting!**

During your family walk, look out for big enough rocks to paint! Bring them home and wash them thoroughly. Paint your rock, maybe use the YMCA four core values.

You will need:

- Rocks (smooth and flat are best!)
- Mod Podge Outdoor
- Paintbrushes
- Acrylic outdoor paint
- Paint Pens
- Water basin

Instructions:

- 1 Pick smooth, flat rocks.** You can decorate any rock, but it's harder to decorate ones with ridges. If you can't find them in nature, the craft stores sell them as do home improvement centers.
- 2 Wash the rocks before painting them.** You want to remove dirt so that it doesn't mess your design. You can wash several at once with dish soap and leave in a colander to drain and dry.
- 3 Seal the rock before painting on it.** Use a clear brush on or spray sealer. This helps so that the rocks (which are porous) don't suck the life out of your markers. Another option: prime with white paint to help the colors that you paint on top appear more vibrant.
- 4 Paint your design on top and use several coats.** Let dry between layers. Use an outdoor or multi-surface paint to help them hold up to the elements.
- 5 Add details.** Use small brushes to make small details and/or dots.
- 6 Use oil based paint pens and Sharpies to write on your rocks.** These work the best for me! Just make sure to let fully dry before any writing.
- 7 Finish off your rocks with a coat (or two or three) of Mod Podge Outdoor.** This will help protect your beautiful painted rocks from the elements.

