

# 1x1 Mural Painting

Youth express themselves by creating individual 1x1 murals to be placed throughout the playspace.

## **Age Appropriateness:**

5-8, 9-12, 13 and up

## **Key Topics:**

Creative Expression,  
Community Build

## **Skills:**

Painting,  
Abstract Expression

## **Materials:**

Paint, brushes,  
cups or paint trays,  
1x1 sanded and primed  
plywood squares

## **Action Time:**

2 hours

## **Resources:**

Creative Kids' Murals  
You Can Paint by:  
Suzanne Whitaker

[www.artistshelpingyouth.com](http://www.artistshelpingyouth.com)

## **OBJECTIVES**

- Students will learn about the KaBOOM! build process and the roles of the Community Partner, Funding Partner and KaBOOM!.
- Students will learn to express their interpretation of the build through the artistic process.
- Students will have a physical connection to the playspace as their artwork is displayed in its immediate vicinity.



## **Discussion**

Discuss the importance of asset mapping and working with available resources. Fully explain the planning process with visual accompaniments such as photos.

Tell the youth all the different service projects that can be done in their community. Do you think all the people involved have special and different talents & skills? What are your different talents? Do you like painting? Can you paint a big mural all by yourself? All the adults planning and building the playground are doing different little pieces of the project. Do you think that if we all do a little bit, together we can make a BIG mural for the playground?

## **Action**

- Each child should be given brushes of different sizes, a variety of paint colors and a 1x1 square to paint.
- Depending on timing and logistics, youth may be involved in the hanging of the mural squares.
- 1x1 murals are generally hung by drilling a small hole near each corner (4 total) and threading zip ties through the holes, which can be secured easily to chain-link fence. They can also be drilled into wooden walls or fence posts.

## **Reflection**

Ask the youth to talk about what they created. What did they learn? What did they accomplish individually, and as a group? Inform them that this collection of artwork will be part of the playspace for years to come, possibly even after they have outgrown it and other youth come to play on it. Talk about the impact that service learning has on the lives of others and ways that they can be involved in the community.