

HEARTWOOD MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Quality Montessori education in the heart of Cary for ages 18 months to 18 years

DATES TO REMEMBER

May 25: Memorial Day Holiday

May 27: Ex. Day/K Graduation

May 28: Senior Graduation

Plans are in process to celebrate all our graduates in a way that's both socially-distanced and inclusive of all who want to wish them well. Details to come!

May 29: Last Day of School

We are exploring various options that can allow us to be "together" on this day while also staying safe. Stay tuned!

YEARBOOKS

Once the yearbooks are delivered, we will contact those who ordered to arrange pick up or shipping. We have only a very few extra copies - [email Ginny](#) ASAP if you need one!



Congratulations, Class of 2020!

We are so proud to send these two amazing, talented young people out into the world! "Lainey and L are a joy to have around," Ms. Rebecca Bloom says. "They are always up for a new experience and bring so much joy to every situation. I cherish all of the times that they joined Middle School for peace this year and will certainly miss all of the laughs that we had together."

Ms. Ashley adds, "I know this wasn't the senior year you guys envisioned, but it was so great to get to share it with you both! I will miss you both so much and hope you keep in touch!"



L Marchitelli

Mr. Ray says, "L is a unique individual. She is incredibly bright and curious. She is continually searching for answers to things that bring her interest and joy. She can become hyper-focused on certain topics and pushes herself to learn as much as possible in these areas. She is a complete joy to have in the classroom."

Ms. Ashley says, "L, you will go on to change the world! It has been such fun talking about social and government ideas and policies with you! Don't ever change how unique you are for anyone else. Even the fact that you think teeth are cool- which I 100% disagree with." ;)

**Wherever you go, go with
all your heart. ~ Confucius**



Lainey Prohaska

Mr. Ray says, "Lainey is an extremely hard worker. She pushes and challenges herself to excel as far as she possibly can in all subject areas. She is a very outgoing young lady. She is incredibly gracious and would do anything for anyone. She is respected by all of her classmates and brings everyone joy while she is in the classroom."

Ms. Ashley says, "Lainey, I know you will go on to do great things helping other people. I hope your path into nursing is easy and enjoyable. Your bubbly personality has made my day many times, so I know you'll make friends anywhere you go! Thanks for the great idea for papercrafting the human body - funny it started as a realistic Valentine's day box, though!"

HW @ Home



Virtual Classrooms, Real Community

Our classes may be taking place online, but the friendships that make Heartwood special are going strong.

Elementary and Upper School students connect on Zoom-powered recess calls, while Toddler and Children's House families have organized driveway gift exchanges, pen pals, and other expressions of socially-distanced love.

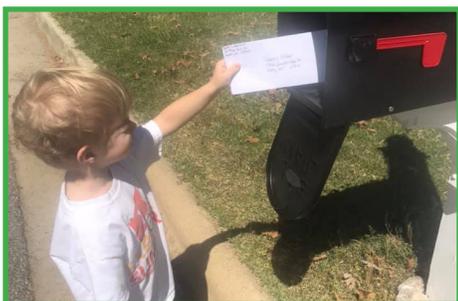
This month, let's finish the year with some fun. Share your masterpieces on the [Heartwood Families](#) Facebook group or on your own class page. If you don't do social media, email them to us at office@heartwoodmontessori.com.

May 4 - 8: Create Beauty!
Chalk, paint, paper, or natural materials - the choice is yours. Beautify someone's driveway or decorate your garden!

May 11 - 15: Spirit Week!
Wear, create, or do something that represents the spirit of Heartwood.

May 18 - 22: Shine Your Light!
Create light or enjoy it where you find it, whether that's a glowstick, campfire, suncatcher, or string of holiday lights. Will the fireflies be out? Go see!

May 26-29: Celebrate!
Stay tuned for how we'll make this week extra-special for our classes and grads.



Call for Designs: All Ages, All Kinds

Long ago, students and members of our community created some beautiful "Heartwood is Good" designs which we used on T-shirts, mugs, and prints. We all need art in our lives right now, so let's bring back the tradition - stick figures welcome!

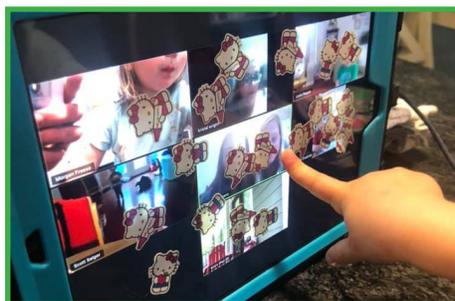
We want your art!

Click here to download a [PDF template](#) with guidelines for sharing your designs, or just go for it - sidewalk chalk, window paint, whatever makes you smile!

Let's show a new generation why **Heartwood Is Good.**



Heartwood is good.



How a Nervous Newbie Learned to Love Ice-Dye

Tie-dye. We do it every year at school... or to be more precise, other (experienced, artistic) people do it while I take pictures and try to stay out of their way.



The process has always seemed deceptively simple to me, like one of those [3-ingredient recipes](#) that looks like it should be straightforward, yet somehow morphs into something way more complicated along the way. I've been very happy to leave tie-dyeing to the professionals.

The coronavirus changed this along with everything else. I wasn't willing to give up our annual tradition, so the only option was to face my fear.

Initially, my internet research wasn't much help. Terms, techniques, and tips felt jumbled and even contradictory. Was heat-setting actually required? What did soda ash do and why did some recipes mention it while others did not? The brilliant kaleidoscopic mandalas and rainbow swirls were amazing... and intimidating. I was haunted by my washed-out previous attempts. I'd followed directions... or thought I had. What had happened, and how could I keep it from happening again?

I watched some tutorials and decided [ice-dyeing](#) looked [promising](#). The concentrated dye powder promised intense color, and the slow melt process ensured the cloth wouldn't dry out before the dye had a chance to work. It sounded fool-proof.

In a weird way, the [unpredictability](#) of the method also felt relaxing. No pressure to

create mandalas here; I'd be channeling Monet's waterlilies, not Van Gogh's sunflowers.

My breakthrough came when I learned that the two big names I kept seeing, RIT and Procion MX, aren't interchangeable - they're actually two different types of dye!

[RIT](#) isn't great for ice-dyeing since its all-purpose dye [won't set without heat](#), but [fiber-reactive](#) dyes like Procion MX actually prefer lower temperatures. Even better, when combined with that mysterious soda ash (aha!), Procion dyes bond to the fabric on a molecular level, meaning the color won't wash out. Perfect for my icy project!

What I Did

I used several old T-shirts and a pair of big [flour sack towels](#) for this experiment. **My set-up was simple - a plastic mesh basket set inside a dish tub to catch the melting ice.** (You could also use crumpled tin foil or a cooling rack to elevate your shirts, set inside a roasting pan or glass casserole dish; the goal is just to keep your cloth out of the pool of melted dye-water.)



Using the Dharma [tie-dye kit](#) on page 4, **I mixed green soda ash with warm water** and let my clothes soak while I got the tub ready, then I squeezed them out and **twisted, scrunched, and folded the fabric into the basket.** (Save the unused soda ash water in a labeled jar for future projects!)

My helper and I **spread a layer of ice cubes over the cloth, then sprinkled on dye.**



Since this was an experiment, I did two layers - the flour sack towels on the bottom, covered with ice and dye, then another layer of ice, and then the shirts with more ice and dye over the top.

We **covered the tub** and heroically waited till all the ice had melted (the next day). I **rinsed out the pieces and ran them**

through a hot wash with Dharma's recommended detergent, which removes any unbonded dye, and voila!



What I Learned

- Ice-dye is like cooking - **don't crowd your pan!** I got really interesting effects from layering the pieces, but definitely had some unexpected colors sneak in, like the green in my otherwise red towel.
- Make sure you have **enough ice** to get the coverage you want, since uncovered areas would likely remain white. I used about a gallon of cubes to make sure my cloth was totally covered.
- **Red + Green = Brown**, but if that's



ok with you, great! We got some amazing watercolor-style effects on Alex's "mix all the colors!" Heartwood shirt.

I hope you'll try this incredible hands-off method for yourself! After all, it's May, and tie-dyed tees are #HowWeHeartwood.



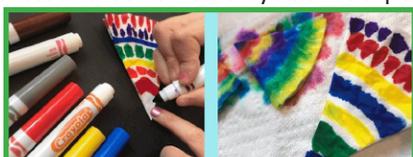
~ Ginny McCollum

Ms. Courtney Talks Tie-Dye

My love of tie-dye happened suddenly, and it took me by surprise. It was my first year teaching Art at Heartwood when I learned about the Tie-Dye Tradition at the end of the school year.

I had never tried tie-dyeing anything before, and was, honestly, a little intimidated by the new concept. I found out by trying this new thing, that I really enjoyed the methodical process of setting up the dye baths, or squeeze bottles, and binding and tying up the fabric. It was exciting to envision how the folds and shapes that I made would translate into beautiful colorful patterns.

By now, I've gathered some experience, tie-dyeing hundreds (maybe thousands?) of t-shirts, with lots of trials and errors made. I have learned so much, and I am hopeful to provide you with an easy and successful at-home tie-dye t-shirt experience, so that the Heartwood



tradition can continue this year for your kiddos. Here is what I've learned... ([Click here for the lesson](#)).



COLOR MIXING
on coffee filters

Coffee Filter Color Mixing

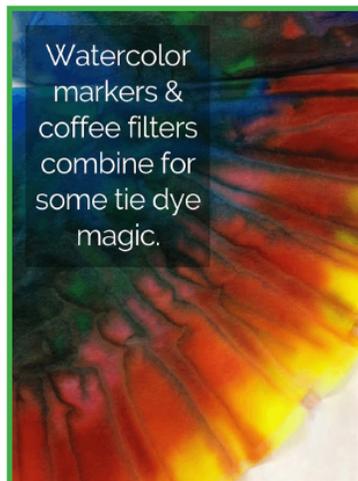
My [color-mixing coffee filter lesson](#) is a fun introduction to what happens when primary colors (Red, Blue, and Yellow) mix together, and it's also great practice in the art of mixing colors for tie-dye!



PRIMARY COLORS are one of the first art concepts I like to introduce to young students in art. First, because they

are a basic building block for understanding how to make all kinds of things. And second, because mixing colors is kind of magical.

Combining primaries creates SECONDARY COLORS (Green, Purple, and Orange). COMPLIMENTARY COLOR PAIRS (Blue + Orange, Red + Green, and Purple + Yellow) combine to make neutral colors like greys and browns. Encourage your child to experiment!



Watercolor markers & coffee filters combine for some tie dye magic.



This easy process results in awesome tie dye like radial designs!

ONE GOOD THING

Tie-Dyeing for Everyone

MATERIALS

- Powdered fiber-reactive dye (not RIT)
- Soda ash and dust mask
- Ice (if using that technique)
- 100% cotton, **pre-washed** fabric

Kits We Like:

- [Jacquard Tie-Dye Kit](#) (good quality!)
- [Dharma Tie-Dye Kit](#) (mask included!)
- [Tulip One-Step Kits](#) (many colors!)

DIRECTIONS DIRECTIONS DIRECTIONS

- If not using a one-step kit like the Tulip (which has soda ash mixed in), soak your fabric in a mixture of soda ash and warm water for 5-15 minutes.
- Squeeze out excess and arrange your fabric - twist, tie in knots, fold, rubber-band, or simply scrunch. Lay your fabric bundle on a cooling rack set over an old roasting pan to catch drips.
- If **ice-dyeing**, do not add water to your dye! Cover your fabric with ice, then poof the powder from the kit's bottles on top. (Don't breathe the dye!)
- If using the [squirt-bottle technique](#), mix up your dye according to the manufacturer's instructions, and apply to your fabric. Make sure to get your nozzle down in the folds for more color coverage.
- Keep your fabric damp for at least 8 hours or overnight in a plastic bag or lidded container, so the dye has time to set.
- Untie and rinse your fabric in COLD water until the water runs clear, then run it through a HOT wash to remove any traces of excess dye.

These radial-designed coffee filters are an exercise in color mixing but they are also an easy way to practice a tie-dyed look. Display them as is; they look lovely taped to a window. Or go another step and incorporate them into a collage, a weaving, or make a colorful snowflake!

Tie-Dye Help Line

Questions? Comments? Crafting emergencies? Email Ms. Courtney (Courtney@heartwoodmontessori.com) for help. **Remember, there are no mistakes, only [beautiful oopses!](#)**