Get Colorful with a Stained Glass Drawing!

Here's a great project to brighten up your house. Create a colorful stained glass window drawing to hang in the window of your home. There's no need to worry about nicks and cuts, because this project doesn't require glass at all—in fact, all you need are some simple household items. It's the perfect project to do rain or shine, because the beauty will last all year long.

What You Need:

- Newspaper
- White copy or tracing paper (construction paper is too thick)
- Black permanent marker
- Magic markers
- Vegetable oil (canola or corn)
- Cotton balls
- Baking sheet
- Rags
- Scotch tape

What You Do:

1. Line your work space with newspaper to avoid any mess.
2. Use a permanent marker to draw shapes or patterns similar to those found on stained glass windows. Don't color the shapes in with the black marker. When drawing your design, you can keep it simple with standard shapes, or you could make it more interesting by adding swirls, hearts, stars, etc.
3. Invite your child to fill in the shapes using brightly colored markers. Ask her to identify each color she uses. See if she can use every color of the rainbow!
4. When she's finished coloring, pour a bit of oil into a small bowl. Place the drawing on a baking sheet.
5. Dip the cotton balls into the oil and wipe it over one side of the paper until the paper is fully saturated. If the paper isn't fully saturated, flip it over and wipe oil on the other side. The paper will become translucent.
6. Wipe off any excess oil with a rag, and be sure to get all of it!
7. Use the scotch tape to hang the "stained glass" on a window, and be careful that it doesn't brush against a curtain or wallpaper that the oil could stain. When the sun comes out, enjoy the colorful work of art!