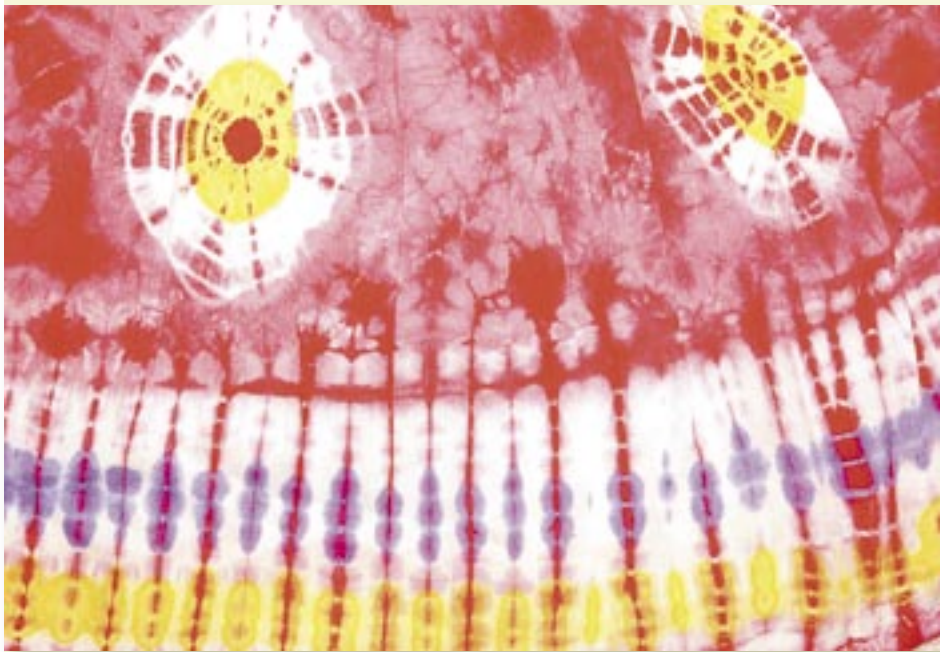


## Kids Can Create a Tie-Dye Masterpiece

Who hasn't heard the requisite "I'm bored" from children on summer vacation? With endless opportunities for fun before them, they may need a little help narrowing down an idea to fill the lazy summer days. Why not try tie-dye?



Creating tie dye clothing can be a colorful and creative way for kids to have fun in the sun this summer.

Tie-dyed clothing was popular during the era of the flower child. With every item of clothing a unique work of art, tie-dye showed the creativity of the wearer and his or her free spirit.

Making tie-dyed items is a fun summertime activity -- one that can be done right in the backyard. It's like

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Pre-Need Planning

dyeing Easter eggs, but on a grander scale.

Here's what you'll need.

- \* white cotton T-shirts or dresses
- \* powder fabric dye in chosen colors
- \* rubber bands
- \* rubber gloves
- \* water
- \* buckets
- \* large plastic bags

1. Mix the dye in buckets according to the package directions and set on the lawn for the least amount of mess from dripping.
2. Have the kids scrunch the fabric of their T-shirts or dresses in various locations and secure with rubber bands.
3. The children then put on the rubber gloves and old clothing, where it won't matter if it gets dye drips on it.
4. Then the kids can dip the items into the dye color or colors of choice until the areas of the fabric are adequately colored.
5. Place the dyed clothing into individual plastic bags, seal and allow to set for 2 to 3 hours.
6. Once the colors have set, remove the rubber bands and allow the garments to dry flat.
7. Wash and dry the items and allow the kids to wear their homemade fashions.

\* For less mess, put the dyes in plastic squeeze bottles and allow the children to "draw" on patterns instead of using the traditional tie-dye method.