Marbling is a pattern of swirls of color on a material. Discover marble prints as you and your child use shaving cream and food coloring to create wild vibrant swirls on cardstock paper. The colors on the shaving cream can be moved in any direction, making it a great sensory play experience for young children as they try to touch it, swirl it, and smush it.

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Visual Guide: Marveling Art

**FIRST**, gather your materials: shaving cream, tray, food coloring, toothpicks or popsicle sticks, a piece of cardboard, cardstock paper.

**THEN**, spray shaving cream foam onto a tray.

**NEXT**, spread the shaving cream using your hands or a popsicle stick evenly throughout the tray.

**THEN**, choose the colors you would like to use.

**NEXT**, add 2 or 3 drops of each color to the shaving cream in different places.

*Make sure not to use too many colors!*

**THEN**, using a toothpick or popsicle stick, swirl and move around the drops of color you added.

**NEXT**, take your cardstock paper and gently press/place it on top of the shaving cream.
Visual Guide: Marveling Art

THEN, lift up your cardstock paper and scrape off the shaving cream with a piece of cardboard.

LASTLY, allow your masterpiece to dry!
Visual Activity Guides

As part of our Autism Access Initiative, NYSCI offers invaluable opportunities for children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) to build a solid foundation of STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) thinking skills. We are committed to encouraging children with ASD and their families to explore their science process skills, early mathematical thinking, designing and making through hands-on exposure to new materials, tools and experiences.

Many children are strong visual learners and visual thinkers, especially children with autism. Given this strength, NYSCI has created Visual Activity Guides, visual step-by-step instructions to help engage children in STEAM activities when verbal communication and instructions are difficult. Visual Activity Guides encourage the whole family to participate in playful hands-on activities while promoting a positive learning experience that is clear and engaging.

Use these Visual Activity Guides in a way that best makes sense for your child: printed on paper or displayed on a screen. Your child should be able to see the guide before beginning the activity and the guide should continue to be visible throughout. At first, you may need to physically guide your child (for example, gently guide your child by the shoulder and prompt them to point to each step). Try doing the activity more than once and gradually decrease physical prompts as your child begins to use the visual activity guide more independently.