



Objective:

- Work as a group to create a large picture of your therapy dog
- Experience the fun of working together
- Respect for one another's turn and creativity
- Success of finished art work

Materials

- Prepared outline of your dog on a foam board
- Book: Why Is Blue Dog Blue? By George Rodrigue
- Blue Dog color sheet and/or Dog Art Word Search (separate attachments in Ages 6-12))
- Acrylic washable paints
- Cups for paint – 24 for \$1 at the Dollar Store

Activity:

Introduce the children to Blue Dog. Read Why is Blue Dog Blue? Talk about how Blue Dog is able to express his feelings.

Write the name of each child on the foam board under the outline of your dog. Each child will put a finger print the color he chooses (or you designate the color) by his name, then will place up to 10 fingerprints in his designated color inside the outline of your therapy dog.

While the children are taking turns doing their fingerprints inside the outline of your dog, you can discuss the importance of being respectful of one another's turn, working together and not messing up another's fingerprints. Also discuss why artists use dogs as subjects in their work, and how colors reflect feelings. We talked about fingerprints and how they are "unique" to each one of us, just like a dog's nose print is to each dog.

While the children are taking turns putting their finger prints inside the outline of your dog, or after a child finishes, they can be working on coloring the Blue Dog color sheet or the Dog Art Word Search activity.

All are attached.

