



Organized Mom Clean Up

OK, hands up those who have spend time setting up an activity for the child to do 2 minutes, make a mess, get bored and run off leaving you to tidy up? Yep, been there, done that!

I think it is fair to say that this will happen sometimes, even with the most co-opprative, angelic type children but this shouldn't put you off. What you need is to become a bit more savvy!

When you are planning your projects you need to answer a few simple questions and these will help you to have a more successful project time.

Big or Quiet

Is the project a quite time or loud time activity? That is to say, is it one that will require the child to sit and concentrate or one that will involve moving their body or running around? Choose an activity that will suit your child's need for the time of day. Picking a quite time project when your child needs to get their wiggles out is asking for trouble.

Prep ahead

How can I prepare so that the project runs smoothly? What can I organise and get ready whilst the child is taking a nap or still at school? How can I involve my child in the set up and clean up?

Mess alert

What can I do to minimise mess and make clean up quicker and easier? You will enjoy the experience so much more if you are not worrying about the mess. If you are pouring, spooning, measuring, weighing do it on a baking sheet to catch any spills. Have a home for everything with labels so that kids have no problem putting things away.

Plant the Seed

How can I get the child interested before we even do the project? Set the scene, ask some leading questions, tell them that you have seen something really cool in a book/TV/Internet and ask if they would like to try it out later. Planting the seed in their head that they are going to be doing something cool and exciting later.