## **Interactive Storytimes with Crafts!**



Blue: A History of the Color as Deep as the Sea and as Wide as the Sky

Nana Ekua Brew-Hammond Illustrated by Daniel Minter Ages: 4–8

Theme: Art History





For centuries, blue powders and dyes were some of the most sought-after materials in the world. Ancient Afghan painters ground mass quantities of lapis lazuli to use for their paints, while snails were harvested in Eurasia for the tiny amounts of blue their bodies would release. And then there was indigo, which was so valuable that American plantations grew it as a cash crop on the backs of enslaved Africans. It wasn't until 1905, when Adolf von Baeyer created a chemical blue dye, that blue could be used for anything and everything—most notably that uniform of workers everywhere, blue jeans.

With stunning illustrations by Caldecott Honor artist Daniel Minter, this vibrant and fascinating picture book follows one color's journey through time and across the world as it becomes the blue we know today.



## **Painting with Blueberries**

What you'll need: A handful of blueberries (add more as needed), water, a blender or fork, paper, a paintbrush

- Blend the blueberries and water in a blender (or mash and stir with a fork if no blender is available).
- 2 Have your child use the juice and paintbrush to paint on the paper.



## **Read-Alike**

## The Noisy Paint Box

Barb Rosenstock Illustrated by Mary GrandPré Ages: 4–8



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