

# Face Painting

*Please use this checklist to confirm that all of the parts of this station are in this bag both when it is unpacked before the OSF Science Night AND when it is re-packed after your event.*

- Table sign, laminated
- Explanation/ What to Do sheet, laminated
- 3 - Face painting Symbols of the Secoya People of the Rainforest of Ecuador, laminated
- 1 - 8 oz. bottle washable black paint
- 1 - 8 oz. bottle washable red paint
- 6 - small Styrofoam plates
- 1 – package of Q-tips

The Face Painting framed poster and a wooden easel should be placed at the station.

## **What you will need to provide for this activity station:**

- Tape to attach table sign
- Wet wipes or paper towels for quick clean-ups

## FACE PAINTING

### Explanation/Background:

In many cultures throughout time and the world, face painting has been used for ceremonies, celebrations and in preparation for war. The dyes used for face painting made from natural materials provided by the forest, like the bark, roots, seeds, fruits and leaves of plants, as well as from soils rich in minerals like iron. The dyes are painted on with fingers, sticks, feathers or other tools. The designs can range from the simple geometric shapes to very elaborate patterns and often symbolize animals which are considered sacred. In some rainforest cultures, painting their faces is part of their everyday routine.

Today, you will use dyes and symbols used by the **Secoya**, an indigenous tribe from the Amazon rainforests of Ecuador.

The red paint comes from the **Achiote** tree, sometimes called the lipstick tree. Red symbolizes force, power, luck, fertility and life on earth. Achiote is also used to dye cloth and to add color to foods.

The black paint, from **Huitoc** seeds which come from a tropical tree, represents mystical life and the hidden forces of the forest. Huitoc is also used for dyeing hair.

### What You Will Do:

The children can choose a symbol from the poster and a dye color to have painted on their face.

### What You Need:

- Poster with Secoyan symbols
- Red (Achiote) and black (Huitoc) paints
- Brushes or Q-tips for painting
- Moist towelettes or baby wipes for clean-ups

### What To Do:

1. Hang or display poster.
2. Use the washable temperate paints provided.
3. Use a small brush or Q-tip to paint the symbol chosen by the child. Remind the child of the symbolic importance of wearing the symbol on his/her face.

# FACE PAINTING SYMBOLS of the SECOYA People of the Rainforest of Ecuador

PAUJIL  
AMAZON BIRD



SERPENT



BUTTERFLY



FROG



CRAYFISH



CRICKET



FROG



ANACONDA



WORM



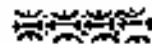
TATACAO  
HE WHO SEES



ENERGY



JAGUAR



SPIDER



LAND BOA

