

MESSAGE STONES

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Message stones are part of indigenous Australian culture & are given for good luck & protection from evil spirits.

What you need:

- ✕ Smooth stones – flat ones are easiest to paint
- ✕ Paint & small paint brushes in various sizes (or paint pens)

What to do:

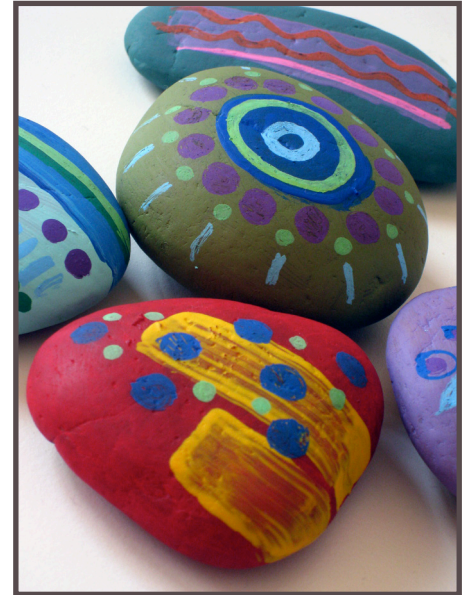
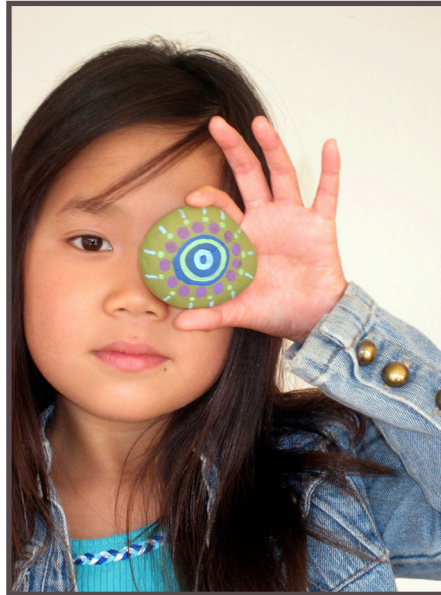
1. Start by covering your work surface to protect it from the paint. Then wash the stones thoroughly to make sure there is no dirt on them. Dry them with a clean lint free cloth.

2. Paint a background colour on your stone. You'll probably need 2–3 coats, especially with dark stones and light paint. Allow the stone to completely dry in the sun after each coat.

Note: Before you paint your design look at the shape of the stone and decide what will work with the shape – for example a long rock would suit a design made of long lines. A rounded stone might suit a central design motif. Do some sketches on paper first or just go for it and let it evolve as you paint.

3. Using fine paint brushes or paint pens get creative and add your design to the stone. Be sure to let each colour dry before adding another colour.

4. Allow the paint to dry thoroughly before you start handling the stones.



How to use your message stones:

- ✕ Stack up your stones to create a colourful balancing sculpture.
- ✕ Use them on your desk as paper weights to colour code homework.
- ✕ Write little messages under the stones and use them instead of gift tags.
- ✕ If you use small stones you could glue a magnet on the back and use them as fridge magnets.
- ✕ Paint a huge smooth rock and use it as a door stop.



Lisa Tilse and her daughter love to make lots of crazy things together. They live in Sydney, Australia, where they make sand sculptures at the beach and collect all sorts of natural things to make collages and mobiles.
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