

# Framed Mosaic

## Ages 6 and Up

I am always hunting for a good frame for a mosaic project. I look for a solid wood frame with no removable back or glass. Oftentimes a mini chalkboard or corkboard will work nicely. For this project I found a *perfect* frame in Michaels. Look in the unfinished wood section for a long rectangular shallow frame.



### Materials:

- Tiles – ask a supplier for any broken or left over tiles...they will let you have them for free!
- White Glue – I used Aleen’s Tacky Glue
- Glass Pebbles – for some visual interest
- Wood Frame – I found mine at Michaels (see picture)
- Pre-Mixed Grout – look in home improvement stores
- Spray Primer – optional but recommended
- Mat Board Scraps – to use as spreaders

### Directions:

1. Spray the frame front and back with primer. Allow to dry.
2. Break up tiles by lightly tapping with a hammer. You may want to wear safety glasses when doing this.
3. Pour a big blob of glue in the frame and spread the glue around using a mat board spreader.
4. Place the tiles and pebbles in the frame leaving a 1/8 to 1/4 of an inch space all around the pieces. This step feels like you’re doing a jigsaw puzzle. The younger the artist the fewer pieces he will fit in, but that’s OK. Have a bunch of smaller tile pieces to fill in the extra spaces. Allow to dry overnight.
5. Place generous blobs of grout on the surface of the tiles and have your child spread the grout around with a spreader. He will have fun with this, and you can fill in the spots that he missed when he’s done.
6. Sponge off the excess grout from the surface of the tiles. You won’t be able to get the tiles perfectly clean, but try to get off as much as you can with out removing the grout from the cracks. Allow to dry overnight.
7. Clean the excess grout off the tiles with a wet scratchy pad.

