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Review of Your World Pottery November 30, 2010 by Our Kids

Williamsburg Shopping Center 6504R Williamsburg Blvd. Arlington, VA 22213 703.241.2379

Oh the weather outside is becoming frightful, but painting pottery was so delightful! If you're looking for an indoor activity to keep the kids creative juices flowing head to locally owned, Your World Pottery in Arlington.

Your World Pottery is unique in that it is a small, cozy studio. When you walk in, you are presented with several shelves of pottery options. Kids can paint anything from ornaments and figurines to plates, cups, vases and pet bowls. The Our Kids review team consisted of two kids ages 10 and 8 and one adult. We painted a milk-jug vase, a mug and a plate.

The studio has two rooms that you can paint in, a reception area (which houses all your painting options), along with the kiln room and a 'kitchen' of sorts where you can use the sink and get new paint supplies. The OK interns and I had one room to ourselves where we created to our hearts content. It took us about an hour and a half to complete everything, from deciding what to paint (oh the choices!), to color selection and the actual painting. There is no studio fee, you just pay for the price of your piece. Prices are generally \$10 and up. During your visit if you paint 2 to 5 pieces get 10% off, 6 to 8 pieces 15% off, 9 to 11 pieces 20% off and 12 or more pieces gets you 25% off. (This is during one visit, not consecutive visits)

More than anything, we enjoyed working with the owner, Lisa Aneiva. She was such an enthusiastic, friendly and creative person. She helped both parties in the studio with any questions they had and went out of her way to make sure the kids in particular felt comfortable. Kudos for super customer service! My 10-year-old OK intern commented that "this is the best pottery place ever."

Because Your World Pottery is on the smaller side, you need to make a reservation (703.241.2379) to paint. We went on a Friday after school and were lucky to score space in the second room; several folks were turned away because they didn't have reservations. So be sure to do so!

New for November/December

If you want to create a gift for that someone special, Your World Pottery is holding special studio hours from November 26 to December 24 where you can paint pottery in a larger space (aka where the 7-11 used to be). Reservations are not required.

In addition to being able to paint your own pottery, Your World Pottery offers a Throw Your Own Pottery on their Potter's Wheel. They do birthday parties at their location or a location of your choice and if you're not feeling creative and want to pick out a beautiful gift, you can order handpainted custom designs.

Be sure to check their website for studio specials. During the month of December with every purchase over \$10 you get a coupon for \$10 off your purchase in January.

Bottom Line

Have a child that loves to create? Your World Pottery is the place to go. Our Kids recommends the experience for kids ages 5 and up; although 3 and 4 year olds might enjoy painting a piece especially during their special holiday setup. You might want to prep your child if they've never painted pottery before that they won't be taking home their creation that day. Instead you will need to wait about a week for the piece to be fired in the kiln. You'll be notified via email or phone when your piece is ready for pickup.

Have you been to Your World Pottery? What's your opinion? Just drop us a note and Our Kids will add your comments to this review.

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