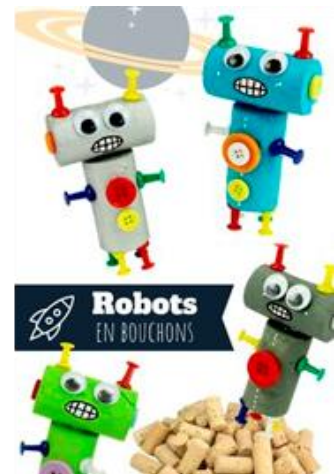


SPA's Summer 2020 Art's First Challenges: SCI-FI ART

Our Art's First instructor, Tina Logan, has organized a series of Art's First Challenges for young artists to do from home. Our Art's First challenges make connections with the Summer 2020 exhibit at SPA, "Futures" in our main floor gallery.

We invite you to imagine and create! You are welcome to participate in the Art's First Challenges in whatever order you wish and with the timing that best fits into your family's plans. Please let us know if you don't have all of the items that are needed to work on an Art's First Challenge; we often have spare materials and we would be glad to share! (Just call us at 479-7069 or email us at info@studioplacarts.com).

Art's First Sci-Fi Challenge #1 Recycled Other-Worldly Creatures



Materials:

Recycled materials (cardboard scraps, tubes, corks, buttons, caps etc..)

Embellishments like push pins, google eyes, pipe cleaners, pom poms, etc...

Poster or craft paints

Tacky glue or hot glue

Build space ships, aliens and robots out of recycled materials. Let your imagination take you to other worldly places to infinity and beyond!

Art's First Sci-Fi Challenge #2

Galaxy Fabric Prints



Materials:

Acrylic craft paints (Black, Dark blues, purples, magenta and white)

Plastic table covering

Paint brushes or fingers

Scrap fabric or canvas

Embroidery hoop (optional)

Tooth brush

Use a plastic table covering and squirt some galaxy colored (black, dark blues, purples and magenta) craft paints on the surface. Use a paint brush or your fingers to blend and swirl the colors around. Make sure the surface is covered well with paint. Be careful not to overblend your colors.

Next, press your fabric onto the swirled and blended paint area and rub the back of the fabric with your hand. You can make more than one print. Allow the fabric prints to dry.

Once they are dry, you can take a little white paint and press a toothbrush into the paint then splatter/spray some stars onto the dried galaxy painting.

You can frame with an embroidery hoop or make a banner or pennant out of it.

Art's First Sci-Fi Challenge #3

Space Rocks



Materials:

Rocks. We used these black rocks and some flat rocks for our own.

Acrylic Paint

Old Toothbrushes. (or cheap new ones)

Surface Cover

Clear Acrylic Spray

Start by covering your workspace. Choose your *space* colors. Purples, blues, and even black if you don't have black rocks. Set aside a silver or white to use at the end.

Use toothbrushes for a splattered paint look. Alternate colors and then use white or silver paint to add the stars.

Once the space rocks are dry, give them a few coats of clear coat.

[Click here for more tips...](#)

Art's First Sci-Fi Challenge #4

Chalk Pastel Galaxy



Materials:

Black drawing paper, chalk pastel paper, scrapbook paper or construction paper
Chalk pastels
Blending stick or q-tips (optional)
Paper towels
Workable fixative (optional)

First, start by getting your paper ready. We used black drawing paper but you can also use black pastel paper, scrapbook paper or even black construction paper.

Have kids decide on a shape for their galaxy, we used a simple spiral shape for this tutorial. Looking at real galaxies for this project helped to inspire the colors and shapes of our galaxy art! Take some time to really look at different galaxy photos, and have kids notice the subtle difference in colors and shapes of all the amazing space photos out there!

Use a pencil to lightly draw in your galaxy spiral.

Pick out your chalk pastel colors. We use white, blue, pink, purple and an orange-yellow color. Color in the center of your spiral with white pastel.

Follow your spiral drawing and draw thick lines with your blue pastel. Do the same with pink and purple chalk pastel, like in the photos above.

Remind kids to leave lots of space around the edges of the paper to add in the stars at the end.

[Click here for more tips...](#)

Art's First Sci-Fi Challenge #5

Watercolor Planets



Materials:

Paper, (Watercolor paper is preferable)

watercolor paints

A little salt

Paint brush and water cup.

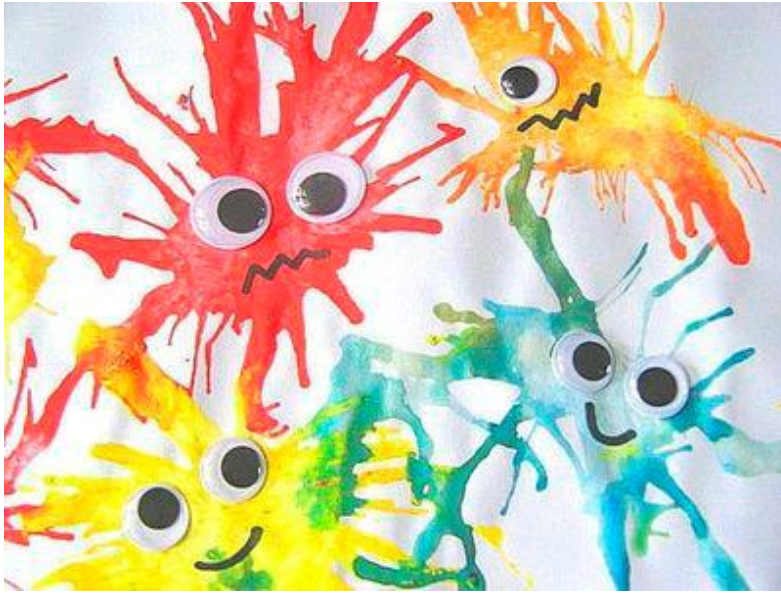
Pencil

[Click here to watch a video tutorial on painting planets with watercolors...](#)

Another variation is to make larger planet paintings using the wet on wet technique and then cut your planets out and glue them on a black background. Then you can use a white paint pen or white craft paint to make stars in the background.

Art's First Sci-Fi Challenge #6

Blow-Paint Aliens



Materials:
Paper
Watercolor paints
Straw
Markers for details
Goggles (optional)

Add a drop of paint to your paper. Use a straw to blow paint around on the surface of the paper making interesting blob shapes and textures.

Decorate your "aliens" with pencil or marker to create faces, arms, and legs.

Optional: add plastic googly eyes.

Art's First Sci-Fi Challenge #7

Paint Space with Acrylics



Materials:

- acrylic paints – make sure you've got a couple of shades of blue, purple, fuchsia, and white
- black paper: poster boards are good as well, and even small pieces of black paper would do – you can also create your own black canvas by painting white canvas solid black
- sponges
- flat brushes

Cut a sponge into small pieces (they can be reused for art projects if washed right after painting). Use the sponge as a brush to mix colors and dab paint onto your paper.

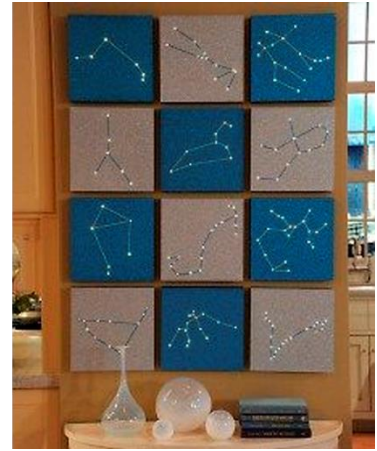
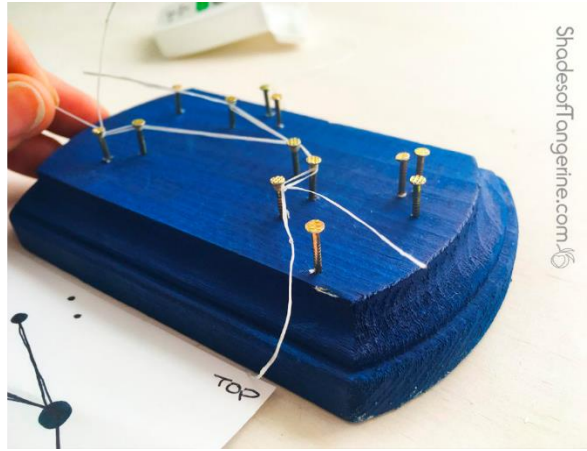
Take white paint and dilute with water. Use a brush and your finger to flick paint splatters (little white dots) onto your paper to create stars and constellations.

Since acrylics are versatile paints, you can try this technique on many different surfaces – cardboard, canvas, other fabric and wood! You can paint t-shirts, or sneakers, or cutting boards.

[Click here for more tips...](#)

Art's First Sci-Fi Challenge #8

Constellation String Art



Materials:

Scrap wood (at least 1" thickness)
Acrylic paint
Nails or brads
Embroidery floss or white string
Hammer
Pencil
Toothbrush (optional)

Paint a piece of scrap wood with the acrylic color of your choice. (Darker colors will make your constellation look brighter) and let dry.

You can splatter/spray paint some white stars using a toothbrush and acrylic paint on top of the dry background color.

Use a pencil to mark dots for your constellation on your dried wood board. You can even make up your own constellation!

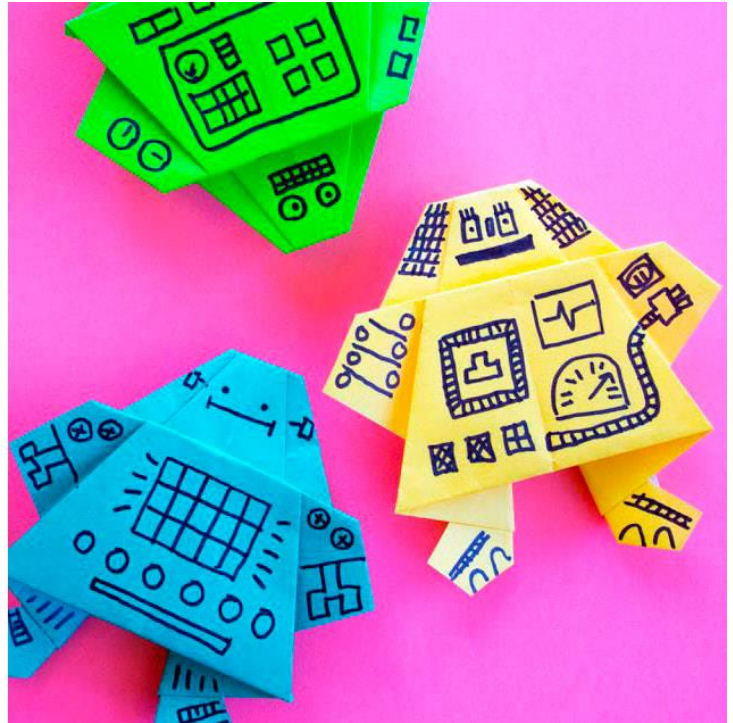
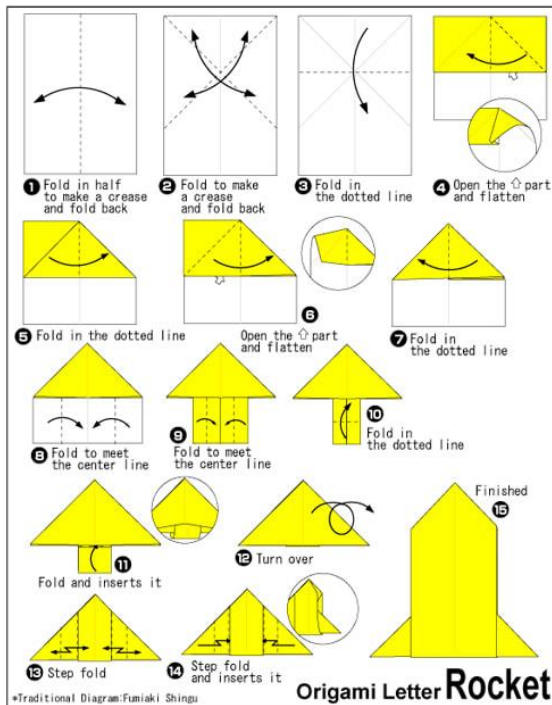
Hammer nails on board but only halfway in. Now you can start at one end and tie the string to a nail and wrap around the other nails like a dot to dot painting. You can backtrack with the string to make your line show up more. (Contrast) Finish by tying off the string on one of the end nails.

[Learn about constellations here](#)

[More about constellations](#)

Art's First Sci-Fi Challenge #9

Origami Rockets & Robots



- [Click here for more details about Origami Rockets...](#)
- [Click here for more details about Origami Robots...](#)

Art's First Sci-Fi Challenge #10

Create a Futuristic City



Materials:

paper

colored markers

black markers

Start by drawing the skyscrapers along the bottom of the paper. These “first” buildings should touch the bottom of the paper. Fill in the details now or leave until later.

Next, draw a highway behind the skyscrapers and then more skyscrapers and buildings behind the raised highway.

The amount of detail is completely up to the individual child. For many kids, I really have to push them by giving them ideas or tips. Offer permission to think outside the box and let their imaginations go wild.

Coloring takes a LONG time, so make sure the kids know that not everything needs to be colored. Black and white can be just as effective.

[Click here for more directions...](#)

Art's First Sci-Fi Challenge #1 | Create a Surrealist Collage of a Strange New World



Materials:
Magazines or old photos
Colored pencils, paints, oil pastels
Scissors and a glue stick
Imagination!

[Click here: Learn about Surrealism](#)

[Click here: Lesson on how to make a surreal collage](#)

Our Summertime Activities have been curated by Tina Logan

Tina Logan is an educator and artist who received her BFA in art education in 1987 from Syracuse University, and has been teaching ever since. She currently teaches at Albert D. Lawton Intermediate School in Essex Junction Vt. but also has 20 years of experience teaching elementary aged artists as well. Tina has served as past president and secretary for Vermont Art Teachers Association and participates on many boards and committees that promote the arts and help bring the arts into the community. As an artist, she draws inspiration from her family, students, garden and community.

Credits

The following ideas and images were sourced and gathered from the following sites...

Pinterest and the following links:

<https://twitchetts.com/2017/07/space-rocks.html/>
https://www.projectswithkids.com/galaxy-chalk-pastel-art-project-kids/?utm_medium=social&utm_source=pinterest&utm_campaign=tailwind_tribes&utm_content=tribes&utm_term=835867642_35020944_240565
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