

13 SPOOKY TALES

ART ACTIVITIES FOR ALL

BY: DR. SARAH ACKERMANN



Instructional Resource

By Dr. Sarah Ackermann

13 Spooky Tales: A Book of Children's Poems may be geared for younger readers, but it can inspire creativity among all ages. Use these activities to steer playful, whimsical, and creative experiences for the artists in your life. Stay spooky!



Two Little Bats Negative Space Activity

Materials:

- Black construction paper - One sheet for each artist
- Construction paper (any color) - One sheet for each artist
- Pencil, crayon, or marker - One for each artist
- Scissors
- Masking Tape - One tape bubble for each artist (optional)
- Chalk or oil pastels - A variety of colors

Step One: Read the poem, *Two Little Bats*, from 13 Spooky Tales with your artists.

Step Two: Ask your artists the following discussion questions:

- What special abilities do bats have?
- Where do bats live?

Step Three: Provide each artist a piece of black paper and another sheet of paper (any color is fine). Fold the non-black sheet of paper in half. Using a pencil, marker, or crayon, draw half of a bat shape. Make sure that the center of the bat drawing is along the fold of the paper.

Step Four: Provide each artist a pair of scissors. Carefully cut out the bat shape.

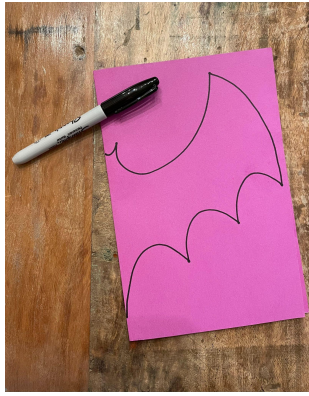
Step Five: Lay the bat shape flat on the black paper. If you prefer, you can lightly secure the bat shape with a piece of tape.

Step Six: Using the chalk or oil pastels, draw and shade all around the bat shape. You can draw something realistic, or take an abstract approach using lots of color and shape.

Step Seven: Carefully lift the bat shape up and away from your paper. What remains will be a black bat shape amongst your beautiful pastel markings.

Step Eight: Hang the artwork somewhere for the whole family to enjoy!





Fold your colored paper in half. Draw half of a spooky bat shape on one side of the folded paper. Be sure that the center of your bat is along the folded edge.



Cut your bat out and lay it on top of your black paper. **OPTIONAL:** You may use a piece of tape to lightly secure your bat.

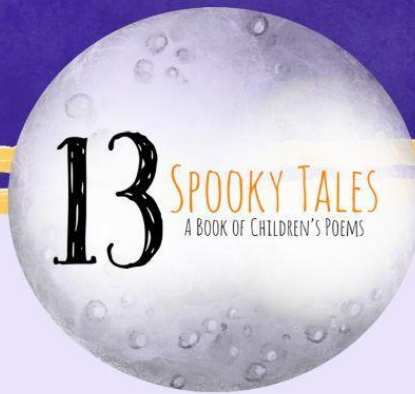


Using chalk or oil pastels, color around your bat shape on the black paper. You can create an abstract design or something more realistic like this moon scene. Have fun blending the colors on the page. When you are done coloring, carefully remove your colored bat to reveal the black bat beneath. Discard your colored bat, or save it for another project.



Can you flap your arms like a bat?

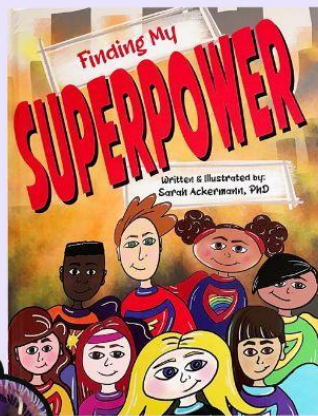




About the Illustrator



Dr. Sarah Ackermann is an artist and educator. She has taught art at all levels, from pre-kindergarten to adult, and now leads university faculty members in best practices in teaching and learning. Sarah has always drawn as a means of relaxation and personal fulfillment, so when her sister, Angela Tiedemann, asked her to illustrate a book of spooky poems, she gladly agreed. The images in this book were created on an Apple iPad with a little bit of a technical magic and a whole lot of imagination. Sarah hopes that this book inspires young artists to illustrate the things in life that spark curiosity and ignite their inner passion.



Pick up a copy of Finding My Superpower, written and illustrated by Sarah Ackermann. Available on Amazon in English, Spanish and German! Stay creative!

