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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 Monsters Coffee Filter Activity

Materials:

- Unused coffee filter One for each artist
- ☐ Washable markers A variety of colors
- ☐ Container big enough to lay the coffee filter flat in (Like an empty food container) One for each artist
- ☐ Construction paper (a variety of colors) A few sheets for each artist
- Glue stick One for each artist
- Scissors
- Spray bottle with water

Step One: Read the poem, *Two Little Monsters*, from <u>13 Spooky Tales</u> with your artists.

Step Two: Ask your artists the following discussion questions:

- What sort of things do friendly monsters do?
- What sort of features do friendly monsters have?

Step Three: Provide each artist an unused coffee filter. Smooth the coffee filter so it is as flat as possible. Place the coffee filter on top of a sheet of scrap paper to protect the surface of your table.

Step Four: Using any combination of washable markers, cover the surface of the coffee filter with color. The more colorful and more abstract the better!

Step Five: Lay the coffee filter in a container. This can be a sheet pan, or plastic food container. Using a spray bottle filled with water, spray the entire surface of the filter. Use as much or as little water as you like. NOTE: If you use less water, the colors will stay more vibrant.

Step Six: Remove the coffee filter from the container, allowing the majority of the water to drip into the container. Lay the coffee filter on a rag, a few paper towels, or a drying rack to dry overnight.

Step Seven: Using paper and markers, draw the details for your monster. This can include eyes, mouth, nose, hair, hands, shoes, and more. Cut the features out and glue them to your monster body/coffee filter.

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



Gather all of your materials, including one unused coffee filter. Lay the coffee filter flat on a scrap piece of paper.



Using washable markers, color the entire surface of the coffee filter. Place your colored filter in a container.







Using a spray bottle filled with water, spray the entire surface of your coffee filter.
Watch as the colors bleed and blend.
TIP: The more water you spray, the more diluted your colors will become. If you want a bright and vibrant monster, use just a little bit of water. Remove the coffee filter from the container and set on either a rag or a few paper towels to dry overnight.

Using any assortment of paper and drawing materials, create the details for your monster. These details were created with scrap white paper, colored paper, and markers. Facial features were cut out and glued to the coffee filter.





Can you make your best monster roar?



About the Illustrator



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!

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

