

Space Oddities

with Anney Bounpraseuth



Hazelhurst

SUTHERLANDSHIRE
ARTS
CENTRE

SPACE ODDITIES

This art making activity is inspired by Christopher Langton's exhibition *Colonies* at Hazelhurst Arts Centre, featuring larger than life, real and imagined space creatures. Follow the steps below to create your own bubble print space creature and ideas to create your own space oddity installation at home!

YOU WILL NEED:



Bubble Prints:

- A4 or A3 sized sheets of cartridge paper (paper from an art book that is a bit thicker than regular photocopying paper)
- Small jars, cups, or bowls (small containers with lids are ideal)
- Water
- Acrylic paint
- Dishwashing liquid
- Something to mix your paint with (such as a paintbrush)
- Straw/s
- Paper towel to wipe up any mess
- Something to cover your work area, like a plastic table cloth or newspaper

Decorations for the space oddity creatures and installation:

- More cartridge paper
- A lead pencil
- Scissors
- Markers
- Decorations such as googly eyes, pipe cleaners, coloured stickers
- Stapler/Staples
- Scrap paper shredded, torn or scrunched into smaller pieces for stuffing
- String, yarn, wool or thin ribbon
- Sticky tape or masking tape

Step 1: Begin by placing a plastic table cloth / newspaper on your work surface.

Next, fill your cups and/or bowls halfway full of water. Having different sized cups and bowls means your bubble prints will be different sizes. The larger your container, the more water and paint you will need.



Step 2: Add 2 - 3 blobs of paint to your water containers and mix thoroughly. Add more water so that the water level is close to the top.

TIP: Test the colours on a separate piece of paper to make sure you are happy with the colour. If it's too light, pour some paint water out and add more paint, if it's too dark, pour some paint water out and add more water.



Remember to ask a grown up to help when cleaning up acrylic paint - don't pour unused paint down the sink as it can clog and isn't good for the ocean.

Step 3: Add a few squirts of dishwashing liquid to each colour and stir again.

If you are using jars or containers with lids, pour in your water, paint and dishwashing liquid – then pop the lid on and give it a shake! You can also save any leftover paint for a little while.



Step 4: Using a straw, blow bubbles into your coloured paints. Make sure your straw is a little close to the top of the surface for the best bubbles - like a frothy milkshake.



Step 5: Place a piece of paper over these bubbles to pop and capture a bubbly print. Make single prints and layered prints.



Step 6: Once your bubble prints have dried, outline the shapes you would like to use for your Space Oddities with a lead pencil, leaving a 1cm border all the way around.



WHY NOT TRY:

These bubble prints would also be great for letter writing stationary, origami paper and gift wrapping paper! Try this art making again next time you have to make a gift for someone special.



Step 7: With help from a grown up, cut out your shape leaving a half cm border all the way around, chopping off the lead pencil line. Place your shape on top of another piece of paper and trace around it. Cut this shape out.

You can also try cutting out two layers of paper at the same time.



Step 8: Stick on your googly eyes, then draw hair, mouth, teeth, slime- anything you like on your Space Oddities to give them personality! You can also add other decorations such as pipe cleaners, coloured stickers and strips of coloured paper to make tentacles to add extra character.



Step 9: With help from a grown up, staple half way around the outside edge of your Space Oddity to create a pocket. Stuff your Space Oddities with scrap paper so that it becomes 3D. Then staple around the rest of the edge till it's closed.



Step 10: To display your Space Oddities, lay them face down and stick a piece of string on the back. Make sure you stick down your string close to the top of the back of your Space Oddity.

Attach your Space Oddities to your ceiling or door frame with sticky / masking tape and some help from a taller person or a grown-up. Don't stand on a chair without a grown up helping you!



TIP: Now that you can see all of your Space Oddities hanging, you can change the lengths of string, so they hang on different levels and look like they're floating in space. Simply pull the sticky tape off, cut the string to the desired length, and stick it back up.

Don't forget to take photos and show us your wacky creations, we can't wait to see them – tag us at: [@hazelhurstcentre](https://www.instagram.com/hazelhurstcentre) or use the hashtag [#hazelhurstathome](https://www.instagram.com/hashtag/hazelhurstathome)

Happy art making!!!