



# ASTRONOMY @ HOME

## ON THE SURFACE

### MATERIALS & STEPS

- A straw (or you can also make a paper tube)
- A piece of paper
- Watercolors or other paint
- A brush or dropper

Use your brush to put a large drop or blob of paint onto your paper. Then, without touching it, blow on the paint through your straw. How far can you get your paint to move, and how can you control your design? Add another drop or blob in another color. As you move this paint with the air you blow onto it, can you make the colors cross each other? Add as many drops in as many colors as you want. You can either leave a few simple shapes or fill the entire page.

**Share your creation with us using #AtTheMuseums**

### THINGS TO TALK ABOUT

How do you make choices about your artwork? Do you plan your entire project in advance or play with supplies until you feel satisfied with the results?

Think for a moment about one of your favorite pieces of art. What choices did the artist make to tell a story or create a feeling? What choices can you make in your own artwork to share your story or feelings with other people?

### FUN FACT

Did you know that at the museum the watercolor paintings have to “rest?” This means they have to come off the gallery walls so that they will not fade in light produced either by the sun or gallery lights. Resting the paintings helps preserve them for many future museum visitors to enjoy. Sometimes it’s exciting to see a watercolor painting end its resting period and come back to the museum walls.



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