

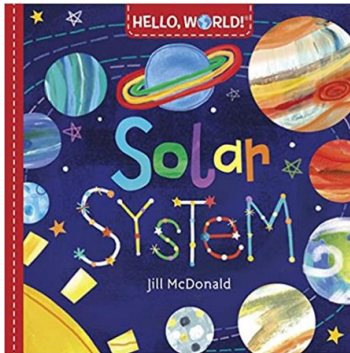


Time: 15 minutes

Messiness: moderate

Adult involvement: low

## Chalk Nebulas!



**Description:** young artists learn cool facts about the solar system and use chalk to make a drawing inspired by nebulas!

**Story:** "[Solar System](#)" written and illustrated by Jill McDonald (Doubleday Books for Young Readers; 2016)

### Let's talk about this artwork!

- What do you see?
- Which parts of this artwork remind you of planets? What makes you say that?
- This artwork has blended areas of color and solid lines that look like the outlines of shapes.
  - Can you find circles and ovals?
  - What shapes remind you of things in your home?
- If you were the artist, what colors would you choose to show we are in outer space?



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## Materials Needed

- 1) black construction paper
- 2) 4-6 chalk pieces: colors and white
- 3) paper towel/napkin
- 4) **optional:** blending stick/Q-tips
- 5) **optional:** workable fixative/aerosol hairspray
- 6) **optional:** newspaper/table covering



## Project Skills

- 1) Fine / Gross Motor
  - a) drawing
  - b) blending
- 2) Language Development
  - a) expressive: speaking
  - b) receptive: listening
  - c) discussing
- 3) 21<sup>st</sup>-Century
  - a) critical thinking
  - b) creativity

## Project Instructions

- 1) Put newspaper or table covering down on work surfaces. Lay your construction paper on top.



- 2) In the center of your paper, choose a color of chalk to draw a cloud shape. Then use a Q-tip or your finger to blend the edges to make the edges of the cloud look softer.



Have time for a [short survey](#)? Let us know how you're enjoying Tiny Thursdays...at Home!



- 3) Choose 2-3 pastels or light shades of chalk. Draw squiggles and thick lines around the cloud you made. Use a finger or Q-tip to blend the chalk and help it look softer.

**Helpful hint:** keep paper towels handy to wipe chalk from hands.



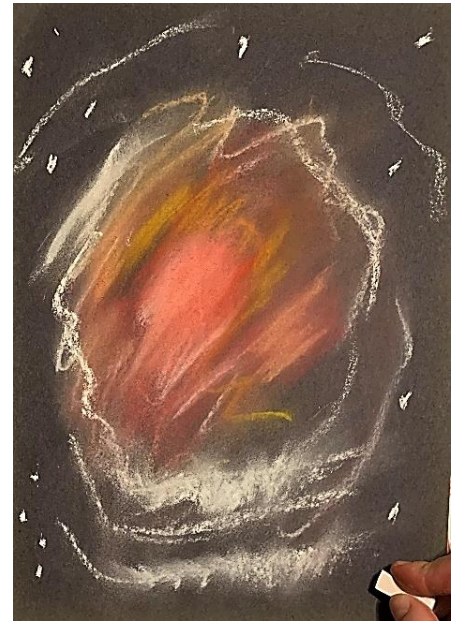
- 4) Next, lay your chalk on it's side and drag it over the areas you have already colored. This is how you combine colors to make new ones! It also makes a cool texture on the paper! Choose which color areas you want to blend with your finger or Q-tip.



- 5) Add some white or other light colors around or on top. Blend some areas or leave areas unblended to make it more interesting!



- 6) Use white chalk and dot around the paper to add your stars. Start by making large white dots.



- 7) Then put an X over each star. This will add a sparkling glow. Take your finger and 'pull' the white color from each X, extending the sparkle.



- 8) Take your chalk drawing outside or over a trash can and shake off any loose chalk.





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- 9) **Optional:** spray a workable fixative on your pastel drawing to prevent smudging.



- 10) Name your nebula! How long would it take a spaceship to visit this place?



 PNC **tiny**  
**THURSDAYS** ...at home!

Questions about or ideas for Tiny Thursdays at Home? Email [edu@daytonart.org](mailto:edu@daytonart.org)

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