

Makerspace Glow in the Dark Fairy Lights

Safety tips:

Children must be accompanied by parents for this activity. Be sure to cover your workspace with paper towels, newspapers, or an old tablecloth.

Items you will need: Materials that you picked up from library. Materials include a mason jar, paintbrush and glow in the dark paint. If you have glitter on hand, you may use this. If you use glitter, you will also need glue. Elmer's glue is perfect for this. You will also need an old magazine, cardboard or even a paper plate to use as a palette for the paint.

Predictions:

Please think of these questions prior to starting. What makes the paint glow in the dark? Is there anything we have to do to the paint so that it glows in the dark?

Makerspace steps:

- 1- Cover workspace to protect furniture.
- 2- Decide on how you wish to paint your fairy light. You may use one color or more than one color. You may also add your own paint. Remember it must be glow-in-the-dark paint.
- 3- Squirt each color onto your paper plate, magazine or cardboard. This will be your palette, and it will make it easy for you to reach for your paint, while you are painting the jars.
- 4- Dip your brush in a color and start by painting the INSIDE and bottom of the jar first. Paint one color at a time. It is

best to make small dots close to each other. You may put different color dots next to each other, so leave space for other colors as you are working with your first color. You may also put a few larger dots in random places. Paint dots all over. Once you are finished with painting the bottom of the jar, then start painting the sides of the jar.

5- Once you have all dots painted on the inside of the mason jar, put it out in the sun's UV rays to charge for about 30-40 minutes. This will allow it to glow in the dark more effectively.

6- If you are using glitter, then you will do this step. Put glue on the top of the round jar cap and sprinkle glitter on it to cover it. Once this is dry, you may put back on jar. This will make the jar look extra fabulous!

7- Take out your jar at night and enjoy watching it glow in the dark!

6- Share your work! Send a picture of your creation and your prediction findings to Mrs. Stephanie at scuozzo@eipl.org.

Additional Resources:

Books available at our library!

Books about bioluminescence:

Glow: Animals with their own Nightlights. - Beck, W.H.

The Winking, Blinking Sea; All about Bioluminescence. - Batten, Mary.

Books that glow in the dark:

Constellations: A Glow in the Dark Guide to the Night Sky. - Sasaki, Chris.

Star Finder: A Step-by-step Guide to the Night Sky. – Aderin-Pocock, Dr. Maggie, forward.

Other books of interest:

Amazing Makerspace DIY Slippery Slime. – Crane, Cody.

The Day-Glo Brothers: The True Story of Bob and Joe Switzer's Bright Ideas and Brand New Colors. – Barton, Chris

Websites:

Curious Kids. How does glow-in-the-dark paint work?

<https://newsroom.unsw.edu.au/news/science-tech/curious-kids-how-does-glow-dark-paint-work>

Mason jar crafts:

[https://www.simplemost.com/easy-diy-make-mason-jar-fairy-lights-with-your-children-2016-](https://www.simplemost.com/easy-diy-make-mason-jar-fairy-lights-with-your-children-2016-05/?utm_source=pinterest.com&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=sharing&utm_content=article-before)

[05/?utm_source=pinterest.com&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=sharing&utm_content=article-before](https://www.simplemost.com/easy-diy-make-mason-jar-fairy-lights-with-your-children-2016-05/?utm_source=pinterest.com&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=sharing&utm_content=article-before)

Glow-in-the-dark projects for kids:

<https://youtu.be/voh7SwgyNbY>