

Coffee Filter Bats



Halloween

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Preschoolers
2.5 - 4 years

These coffee filter bats are a fun way to get a bit messy with art. They are a great addition to any Halloween theme or unit about bats. Using a few supplies around the home, you can create these colorful bats to brighten up any room!

Learning Outcomes

Domain:

Cognitive

Indicator:

Describing similarities and cause and effect in recurring events

Skills:

Reflecting and Reaching Conclusions



Materials

- Coffee filters
- Clothespins
- Washable markers in dark colors
- Black and white paint
- Scissors
- Small paintbrush
- Spray bottle filled with water
- Waterproof surface to work on (a cookie sheet works great)



Instructions

Step 1: Start by painting your clothespin black and letting it dry.

Step 2: Next, take your coffee filter and fold it in half. Color in the coffee filter with your dark markers. You can use blobs or create a pattern using lines, just make sure the whole coffee filter is colored.

Step 3: Once completely colored, take your spray bottle full of water and begin to lightly mist the coffee filter on your cookie tray until the colors start to blend together.

Step 4: Let the coffee filter dry completely, fold it in half and cut out round, half-circle shapes into the edge of the coffee filter to create the bat wings.

Step 5: Once your clothespins are dry, draw 2 eyes and a small mouth on the clip end of the clothespin with

your white paint and let dry.

Step 6: Pinch in the middle of the wings and slide the clothespin onto the filter and spread out the wings!



Age Adjustments

For older preschoolers: Give older children complete autonomy with this activity. You can create pencil marks on where to cut the bat wings out and let them have full control on this one. Each bat will be unique!

For younger toddlers: The spray bottle may be a tricky concept to grasp — try hand over hand until they nail these skills.



Playful Questions

- Have you ever seen a bat before?
- Why do you think bats sleep at night?
- What happens to the marker on the coffee filter when you add water?
- How do bats communicate with one another?
- Why do bats hang upside down?