The project on the next page goes along with the book *A Big Mooncake for Little Star* by Grace Lin.

The book uses a sweet story to explain how the moon changes phases. In this story, Little Star can’t help but nibble on the big mooncake her mama made…. even though her mama told her not to! She secretly nibbles and nibbles until there is nothing left. It’s okay though, she and mama can just make another big mooncake together!

For our art activity, we are making our own moon dust paint inspired by the big mooncake! This project is special since you get to make your own materials for your art just like how mama and Little Star made their own mooncake for the night sky.

**MUSEUM CONNECTION**

This activity was inspired by the painting *Moonlight Landscape* by Joseph Wright of Derby.

Wright, the artist of this work, made many paintings about light and in this piece he focuses on moonlight. Can you see the moon in this painting? Maybe not the moon itself, but you can see its light peeking out from behind the bridge and reflecting off the water. In our book, Little Star kept nibbling on the mooncake until it was gone. Do you think this moon has been nibbled on by Little Star, or is it a new moon fresh from the oven made by her mama?

You can see this painting in Gallery 16 of the Museum of Art on your next visit to The Ringling!


**STANDARDS:**

IV.A.1  IV.A.2  IV.A.3  IV.F.1  IV.F.2  IV.F.3  IV.F.4  I.C.1  I.C.2  VIII.A.1  VIII.E.1  VIII.E.2
ACTIVITY
MOON DUST PAINT

MATERIALS: SIDEWALK CHALK (WHITE, BLACK OR GRAY), WATER, CONTAINER TO MIX IN, GLITTER, BLACK CONSTRUCTION OR HEAVY PAPER, A BRUSH

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: SIMPLE

DIRECTIONS:

1. Crush up about half a stick of sidewalk chalk in a container to make the base for your paint.
   
   Tip: Wet the chalk a little and use a rock to crush.

2. Mix in water

3. Add glitter and stir. Add a little bit more water and mix until it looks like chunky paint.

4. Dip your paintbrush into the moon dust paint and start painting!

5. Watch what happens as it dries...does the paint look like the surface of the moon?
   
   Tip: Use glow-in-the-dark glitter for added fun!

WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE WHAT YOU CREATE!

Click here to share your masterpiece on our Family Programs Facebook Group!

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Discover more activities at ringling.org