

BLINK AT HOME

Aurora Art

Can you make your own aurora?

Skills to Develop

- + Identifying colors
- + Science content knowledge
- + Creative thinking

Materials

- + Colored chalk or oil pastels
- + Black paper
- + White paper
- + Scissors
- + Facial tissue or paper towel
- + Aurora photos [PDF]

WHAT TO DO

During the Learning Activity

1. Discuss the aurora with your child: *have you seen the aurora or pictures of the aurora? What causes the lights?* Look at the aurora photos [PDF] or watch timelaps videos of the aurora for inspiration.
2. Explain that today you are going to make aurora art using the photos as your inspiration.
3. Invite children to cut a wavy line across the white paper.
4. Place the white paper you just cut onto the black paper. Invite children to trace along the wavy line of the curve with chalk or oil pastels. Trace the line a few times creating plenty of color along the guideline and black paper.
5. Help children hold the white paper in place. Invite them to use a facial tissue to smear the color upward- smudging it across the construction paper to create streaks that resemble the aurora.
6. Move your white paper to a new location on the black paper and repeat the above step to expand the aurora. Experiment with various wavy line shapes, angles of the line, and colors. Add stars to the sky using white pencil or crayon.

Extend the Fun

- + Watch [Kiuġuyat: The Northern Lights](#), a Anchorage Museum Planetarium show produced by the University of Alaska Fairbanks, to learn more about the aurora in Alaska.

BLINK: AURORA ART

Aurora photos: Print, cut, and use



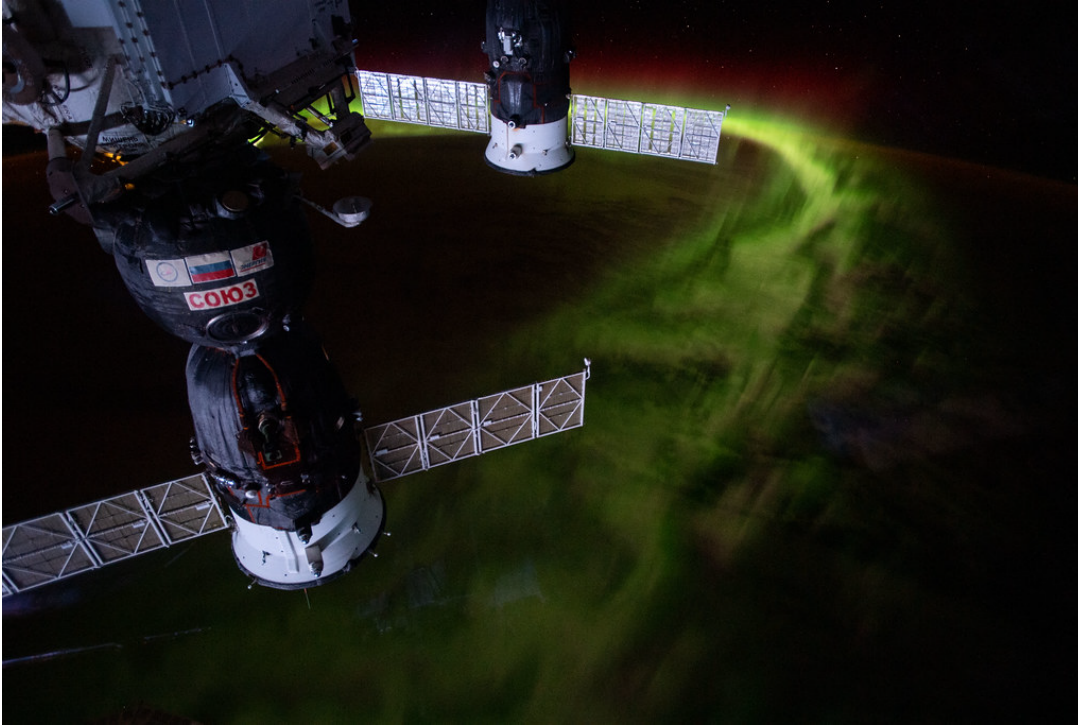
"Aurora and Sunrise" by Marcin.P. is licensed under CC BY 2.0



"Midwestern USA at Night with Aurora Borealis" by NASA Earth Observatory is licensed under CC BY 2.0

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Aurora photos: Print, cut, and use



"The aurora australis, or 'southern lights,' above the Indian Ocean"
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"NASA's THEMIS Sees Auroras Move to the Rhythm of Earth's Magnetic Field", Talkeetna, Alaska by NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center is licensed under CC BY-NC 2.0

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Fast Solar Wind Causes Aurora Light Shows
October 8, 2015; Harstad, Norway, NASA
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"Aurora image from Keller, Washington" by NASA Goddard
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