

# Spooky Silhouettes

TIME: 10 min + 30 min

## MATERIALS

- White paper
- Red, orange and yellow paint (I use tempera pucks)
- Black acrylic paint
- Table cloths or newspaper (protect your tables)
- Paint brushes (large for sunset, smaller for tree)
- Bat stencil & construction paper OR bat silhouettes
- Scissors
- Glue stick



## STEP 1: SUNSET

- Paint a sunset on your white paper. Use a large brush for this to make it easier.
- Start with yellow and work your way to darker.
- Blending is the trickiest part and not all students will do the best blending (don't worry!). To help them with blending the colours, I tell them to wet their paintbrush with water only and go over the "seams" of colour, trying to blend the sections. It's also easiest to blend when the paint is wet, so blend each section as you go, not all at the end.
- Leave to dry completely.

## STEP 2: SILHOUETTE

- Some students might opt to use a pencil to sketch out their tree first. Be careful though, you can't really erase it on the paint. Do the tree on one side and have branches that come out to the side so that the bat has something to hang off of. The bat doesn't *have* to hang, so they really do have freedom.
- Put some newspaper or table cloths under their work to protect your tables from the paint. Use the black acrylic paint to make the tree using a small paintbrush.
- This past year, I changed it up and showed my students how to add a fence with the black paint. Some chose to, and others didn't want to.

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## STEP 3: BAT

- I print each student a bat (for size, I fit three bats on one standard page)
  - If your printer toner is quite light or grey, have them colour the bat black.
  - Even if you have great toner and it prints black, have students colour the back in black too. This is because we want 3D wings and don't want them to be white underneath.
- \*\*If using stencils or having students draw their own bats on construction paper, you avoid all this colouring. Just skip to next step.**
- Once the bat is coloured, cut it out and fold the wings in so that they stick straight up. Glue the "body" part of the bat onto the paper. Like I mentioned before, their bat doesn't *have* to hang. It can be flying if they want.
  - Some of my students wanted the bat to have it's wings closed as it was hanging so they glued them shut.

