



Josh Simpson, *Megaplanet*, 2002, Glass, 8 in. x 8 in, The Henry Melville Fuller Acquisition Fund.

Inspired by the story of the Apollo astronauts seeing the earth “hanging like a blue marble in space,” Josh Simpson began creating his own marble sized planets in the mid-1970s. This early artistic exploration, combined with his intense interest in physics, cosmology, astronomical phenomena, and all things mechanical, inform and inspire his work to this. What do you imagine the surface of this megaplanet to be like?

Josh Simpson was born in New Haven, Connecticut. He attended the Kent School in Connecticut, where he started his ceramics career. In the 1970s he learned how to blow glass and opened his first studio in Vermont. Simpson now lives in Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts and continues his work as a glass artist.

You can see more of his works [here](#).

Activity: Outer Space Art - Create an outer space scene using cut paper and oil pastels

Materials:

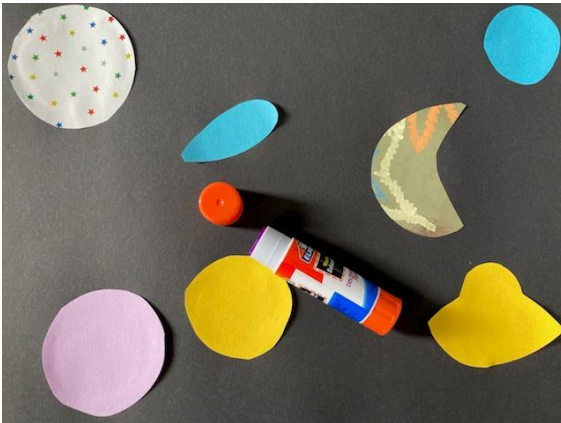
- Oil pastels (crayons can be used)
- Scissors
- Glue or tape
- Black, dark blue, or purple paper
- Construction paper, magazines, wrapping paper, or other colorful paper

Directions:

- Cut shapes from your paper to create planets, moons, rockets, spaceships, and other objects for your night sky.
- Use glue or tape to attach shapes to the black paper.
- Use oil pastels to add rings around planets, stars, and other details. If using crayons use light colors and press down heavily to make them show up against the dark background paper.

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