

PAPER TOWEL ART - IS IT MAGIC OR SCIENCE?!

Messy Little Monster April 09, 2020

We have a really fun trick to share with you today. We are going to show you how to make surprise pictures using just markers, paper towel and water. This **magic paper towel art** will blow your child's mind. As if by magic you can make pictures or colors appear just by placing a paper towel in water. How is this possible you ask, is it magic or is it science? Whatever it is it is definitely fun!



— ADVERTISEMENT —

Kids will love making their own magic paper towel art, but before you let them get their hands on this fun science and art activity demonstrate the magic to them with a few of your own designs. They will be amazed and will be begging to make their own!

There are so many different directions you can take this surprise drawing activity. You could draw outlines that suddenly appear colored in when they come into contact with the water, you could have extra parts to a picture appearing or you could even write secret messages. The options are

endless.

If you have any paper towels left over after doing this fun paper towel activity have a go at [paper towel painting](#).

Magic Paper Towel Art & Science Experiment in One!



Paper towel art supplies:

- Marker (permanent and washable)
- Paper towels
- Water in a small tray
- Scissors

Paper towel art directions

STEP 1: Get your supplies ready

Before showing your child this magic paper towel art have all your supplies ready, this is such a fun art activity and science experiment in one that they won't want to be kept waiting!

You will need to prepare your paper towels. Do this by taking a square of paper towel and folding it in half. Then cut the paper towel so you end up with a small square with another small square behind it (see image below)



You will also need a small tray filled with water as well as a set of permanent markers and a set of washable markers.

STEP 2: Draw pictures on paper towels

Now it's time to design your pictures. Take a permanent marker and draw an image on the top layer of the folded paper towel. Start by drawing a simple design like a rainbow, you can always get more adventurous as you get into it!



When you lift up the top layer of the paper towel you will see that the pen has gone through the paper towel onto the layer below. Now it is time to color in this outline or add to your image. Color the image with washable markers so the color bleeds when it is put into water.

STEP 3: Add paper towel art to water

Now it's time for the magical part of this paper towel activity. Make sure everyone is watching as this happens fast! Place the paper towel into the water. As the water soaks through the two layers of the paper towel the colors from the bottom layer will appear through the top layer of the paper towel making it look as if the colors or images have appeared by magic.



We have had so much fun with this surprise drawing activity. Here are just a few of the magic paper towel drawings that we have had a go at.

Rainbow rain cloud magic paper towel art

For our rainbow rain cloud we drew a rain cloud on the top layer of paper towel using a permanent marker.



We colored the cloud on the second layer in using washable markers in rainbow colors. We folded the top layer of the paper towel back over and got ready to add it to the water. Wait for the magic!



When added it to the water we ended up with a rainbow rain cloud!

Storms don't last forever surprise picture

This was made as a positive message of hope, storms don't last forever! We started by drawing a rain cloud on the top layer of the paper towel with the words 'storms don't' inside it using a permanent marker.



On the bottom layer of paper towel we wrote the words last forever, again in permanent marker. We then added some color to the bottom layer using washable markers.

When added to the water the color and words appeared creating a positive message of 'storms don't last forever'.



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