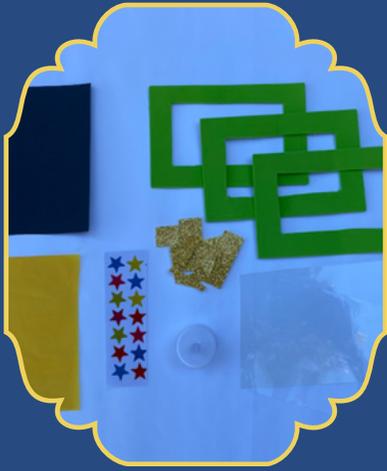


# The Light Life:

## Lantern Activity Kit



### Materials List:

- 1 tea light. Do **NOT** use a real fire
- 3 foam borders
- 1 piece of black construction paper
- 1 piece of clear plastic
- 1 piece of tissue paper
- Stickers
- 1 dull pencil or a hole puncher

### Structure / Activity:

Begin by looking at your materials! Look at the tissue paper, laminate sheet, and black construction paper. Hold them up to the light.

What do you notice about these materials?  
Do they all allow light to shine through?

Visit the Science  
Circus Website for  
additional information  
about our  
materials list



### Key Terms:

We can use the words opaque, transparent, and translucent to describe the amount of light that shines through a material.

#### Opaque

A material that you cannot see through. This material allows little light through.

#### Transparent

A material that allows a lot of light through and you can easily see things on the other side.

#### Translucent

You can see some shapes, but not clearly. This material only allows some light through.

# How To Build 3 Different Lanterns

Visit the Science Circus Website to access video directions.

## Making a Plastic Lantern:

- Take one sheet of plastic and put the stickers anywhere, just remember that stickers close to the edges might not be visible.
- Carefully peel the back of the foam border off.
- Lay the plastic down on the sticky part of the foam border. Make sure that it starts at one edge of the foam border. There should be a small strip of sticky foam that is not covered by plastic.
- Roll the foam border into a tube. You will use the stick foam to hold the tube in place. Your tube should fit over the tea light.



## Making a Paper Lantern:

- With the pencil, mark where you want to poke holes in the construction paper. You can make any design you want (I made the Big Dipper!)
- You can use the tip of your pencil to poke the holes. The more of the pencil you poke through, the larger the hole will be. (You can also use a hole puncher to make the holes.)
- Carefully peel the back of the foam border off.
- Lay the construction paper down on the sticky part of the foam border. Make sure that it starts at one edge of the foam border. There should be a small strip of sticky foam that is not covered by construction paper.
- Roll the foam border into a tube. You will use the stick foam to hold the tube in place. Your tube should fit over the tea light.





## Making a Tissuepaper Lantern:

- Carefully peel the back of the foam border off. Lay the tissue paper down on the sticky part of the foam border. Make sure that it starts at one edge of the foam border.
- There should be a small strip of sticky foam that is not covered by tissue paper.
- Roll the foam border into a tube. You will use the sticky foam to hold the tube in place. Your tube should fit over the tea light.



**Congratulations! You've made your lanterns!**

### Stop and Think:

1. What will your lanterns look like when you turn on the tea light?
2. Which lantern will light up a room the best?
3. If you put your lanterns close to a wall, what kinds of shadows do you see? Can you make the shadows bigger or smaller?

### Next Step:

Grab the shiny foam paper and try and make a more complex shape like an animal, boat, or person.

- Arrange your shapes to the desired shape without sticking it yet. You can cut the shiny foam shapes into different shapes as well.
- Once you have your design and it fits within the frame, peel the paper backing of the foam shapes and stick them onto the clear plastic.
- Roll the plastic to create your lantern.

Explore  
more!

