

# Make Your Own Galaxy Bottles and Jars:

## STEAM Activities

From One Little Project and Little Bins for Little Hands



### Galaxy Sensory Bottle

Do you enjoy looking at pictures of space and galaxies? You can make a galaxy sensory bottle at home that you can not only look at whenever you want, but you can hold in your hands! It can be very calming and soothing having outer space at your fingertips!

### **Materials:**

- Clear plastic bottle with lid (emptied and cleaned)
- Baby oil
- Glitter (silver or whatever you have)
- Blue and purple food coloring
- Measuring cup (2-cup)
- Water
- Super glue (optional)

### **Procedure:**

1. Fill the measuring cup with about 12 ounces of water. Add the blue and purple food coloring until you get a nice, dark blue night sky color. You may need to mix it up.
2. Fill the empty bottle about halfway with the baby oil.
3. Add some glitter; no need to measure.
4. Take the colored water and pour it into the bottle; leave a little space at the mouth of the bottle for air.
5. Screw the lid onto the bottle tightly. (Later on, you might want to glue it with super glue so it stays shut and doesn't leak.)
6. Turn your bottle up, down, and around – observe what happens!

Describe in words what happens as you turn the bottle around and move the liquid and glitter inside.

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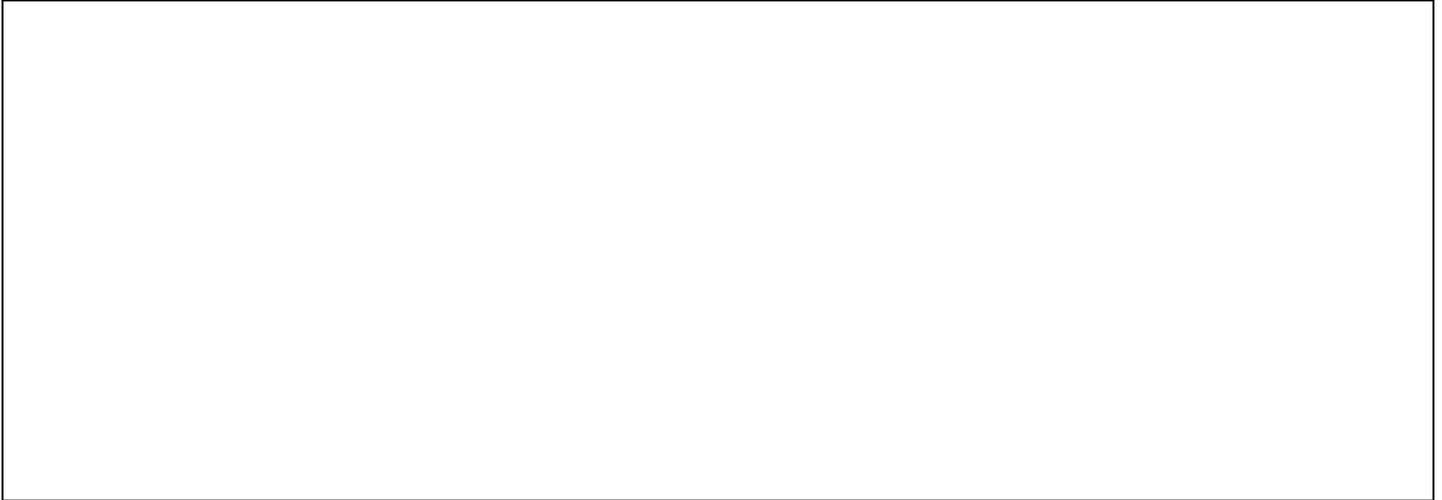
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Draw a picture of your galaxy sensory bottle:



What do you like most about your galaxy sensory bottle?

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## Galaxy Jar

Here is another craft that will allow you to hold the galaxy in your hands and put it on display in your home. There are a few ways you can make one of these, and here is one.

### **Materials:**

- Clear glass jar with lid
- Glitter (sliver, purple, blue, glitter stars, etc.)
- Acrylic paint in colors like blue and purple
- Plastic cups
- Bag of cotton balls
- Stirrer
- Super glue

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## **Procedure:**

1. Squeeze a small amount of each paint you want to use into the plastic cups (each color separately); add about a cup of water to each cup and stir.
2. Create a layer of cotton balls at the bottom of the jar. Use your stirrer, a spoon, or a knife to help place them (if needed).
3. Pour some glitter onto the cotton balls – about a teaspoon (you can estimate).
4. Choose a paint color. Pour in a layer of the water/paint mixture over the cotton balls; it should be enough for the cotton balls to absorb the water, but be careful not to make it too soggy.
5. Add a little but more glitter.
6. Repeat steps 2-5 until you get to the top. Keep creating more colorful layers in any order you want. Remember to pack in the cotton balls so it doesn't get too soggy.
7. Put on the lid, and glue the lid on. Enjoy your galaxy in a jar!

Describe in words what your galaxy in a jar looks like – how does it compare to a real galaxy?

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Draw a picture of your galaxy in a jar:



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What do you like most about your galaxy in a jar?

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## Other Resources:

Galaxy images:

<https://www.spacetelescope.org/images/archive/category/galaxies/>

More sensory bottles:

<https://especialyeducation.com/diy-sensory-bottles/>

<https://littlebinsforlittlehands.com/recycled-sensory-bottles-common-household-bottles/>

More space-themed STEAM:

<https://spaceplace.nasa.gov/menu/do/>

<https://littlebinsforlittlehands.com/space-activities-for-kids/>

<https://www.iheartartscrafts.com/20-outer-space-crafts-for-kids/>