

Little learners get hands on, minds on at Tinkering for Tots, a program designed for curious preschoolers to develop an innovative mindset and make connections through storytelling, play, artifact exploration and a take-home STEAM activity kit.

What connections are we making?

Highlighted Habit



LEARN FROM FAILURE

Description: Try again. What's another way to...? What can we do differently to make it work?

Questions to Ask Your Young Learner

What do you think of the different glass designs? What do you think about the colors? What colors did you see? Why do you think the artist named their work ...? What is your favorite piece? Why? How do you feel when you can't do something? What happens when you keep on trying? How do you feel when you learn to do something new? Why is it important to try again?

Story

Title: The Most Magical Yet **Author:** Angela DiTerlizzi

Why we picked this book: This book helps our little learners understand that everyone has things they haven't learned to do yet, and how to cope with difficult learning moments. The emphasis on turning a negative into a positive is a valuable lesson for all.

Artifact Spotlight

Name: Studio Glass

Location: Davidson-Gerson Modern Glass Gallery

To learn more about the story behind this artifact, please see the artifact spotlight on Page 2.

Open Exploration

Description: Practice learning from failure while building with dominoes.

Skills your young learner is practicing: Persistence, collaboration, staying curious, being empathetic.

Take-Home Activity

Title: Tissue Paper Suncatcher

Materials:

- Contact paper sheets
- Black construction paper
- Tissue paper squares
- String







Artifact Spotlight



Studio Glass: For hundreds of years, people made things they needed to use out of glass, like this water pitcher. Sometimes the pieces were colored and had fancy designs, sometimes they were plain. But in the 1950s and 1960s, Harvey Littleton found ways glass artists could create objects that could be beautiful, useful, and interesting. He wanted to teach artists how to work with hot glass in small amounts, so he asked Dominick Labino, a scientist, to help. Labino brought a small kiln (a special oven) to melt special marbles made of glass that did not have to be as hot to melt. This was the beginning of the Studio Glass movement.





Most early Studio Glass artists began their careers creating paperweights (heavy objects used to hold down loose papers, like on a desk), and moved on to other objects, such as vases and pitchers. Paul Stankard, another artist, concentrated on creating the fancy and beautiful paperweights he could imagine. Today, he is famous for his miniature worlds, with imaginary plants and flowers, bees, and sometimes people.



Harvey Littleton is remembered as a glass artist and teacher. He set up programs for students to study fine glass working in colleges. He worked with simple forms to show the beauty of clear glass with many layers of thin color. Dominick Labino set up his own glass studio on his farm. He designed glassblowing and finishing tools, built his own ovens, and began creating his own glass art. Through his research and innovations, like the mixing of colors, he gave artists new ways and tools to create glass as art in their own studios.





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Take-Home Activity



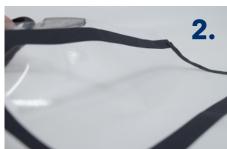
Tissue Paper Suncatcher Materials:

- 2 contact paper sheets
- Black construction paper
- Tissue paper squares
- String



Directions:

- 1. Fold the construction paper in half and cut out a frame that is slightly smaller than the contact paper sheets.
- 2. Peel the backing from one piece of contact paper, and place the frame on the sticky side.
- **3.** Decorate the inside of the frame's sticky side with tissue paper pieces. Try not to leave any blank spots.



- **4.** Peel the backing from the other piece of contact paper, and place it sticky side down on top of your tissue paper pattern.
- **5.** Trim any extra contact paper from around your frame. Use scissors to poke a hole in the frame, where you want the top to be.
- **6.** Tie the string in a loop through the hole, and hang your suncatcher in a window.











Coloring Sheet

