



**BRANDYWINE
RIVER MUSEUM
OF ART**

Coffee Filter Crafts (flowers, butterflies and paintings)

Diffusing papers are really fun to use. When you color them with markers and then get them damp, the colors spread and bleed together almost like they are watercolors. Diffusing paper can be found at most craft stores however, a fun and easy alternative is to use coffee filters you likely already have at home!



Supplies Needed:

- Coffee filters
- Water based markers
- Paper towels
- String
- Straw
- Plate
- Water

Step 1: Set up your Space

- Put your coffee filter on top of a plate. Have a bowl of water at the ready. Make sure there is paper or, a place mat beneath the plate to take care of spills



Step 2: Start drawing

- Get your markers and start drawing some fun patterns, funky shapes or, fantastic faces. Basically, you can draw whatever you feel like. Just try to keep your masterpiece on the filter.



Step 3: Add Water

- Take your straw and hold it in the cup of water. You will want to put a finger on the end of the straw to hold the water in the straw via suction. Bring the straw over your filter and release your finger.



Step 4: Fold Filter

- With at least three drops on the filter you will want to fold the filter in half. Now keep adding water to the filter until the colors are blended to your satisfaction.



Step 5: Dry the Filter

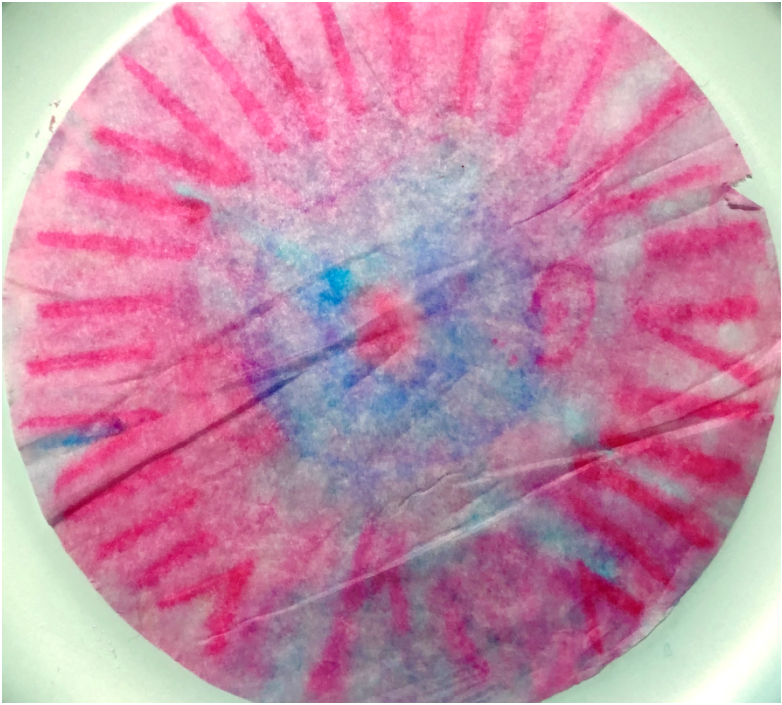
→ Remove the filter from the plate and lay it on paper towels to sop up the water.



Step 6 (Optional): Add more drawings)

→ If you are not satisfied with the way your filter came out, you can add more details after the paper has dried.

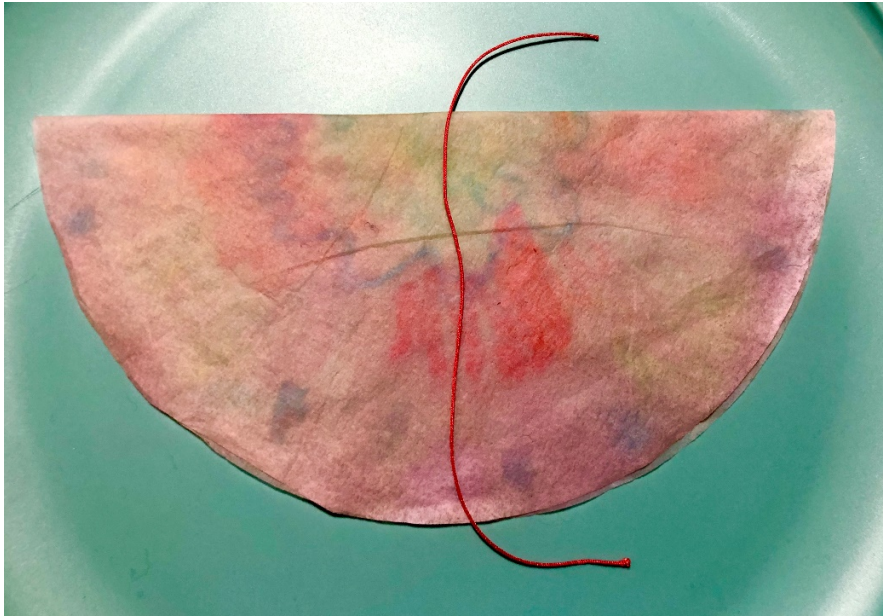
There you are done with your Filter Masterpiece!



But... what if you want to make something more with your piece? Well good news! You can make butterflies and flowers out of your filters.

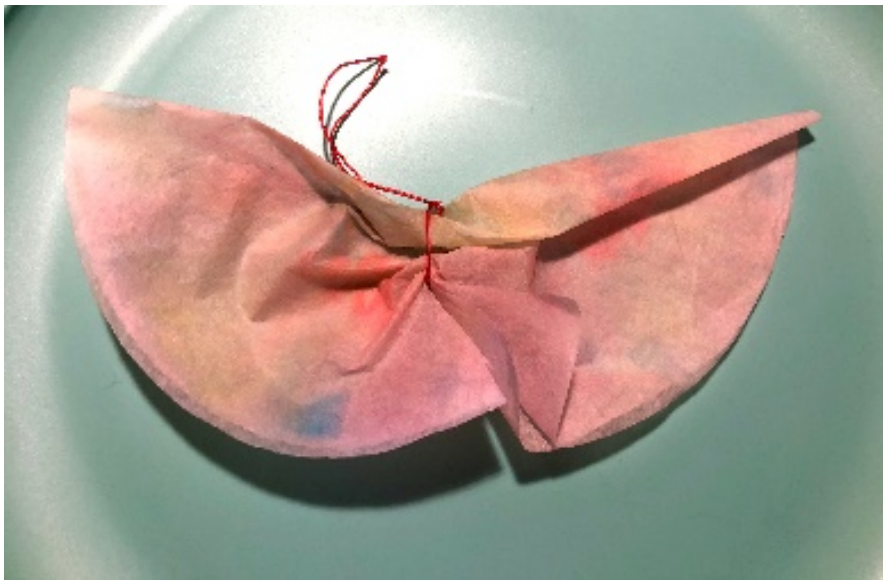


Butterflies



Step 1:

→ Fold your filter in half. Then cut halfway up the paper in the middle of the piece.



Step 2:

→ Take your string and wrap it around center of the filter. Make sure both sides are even and then tie of the string. Leave extra string hanging off the knot for antennae.



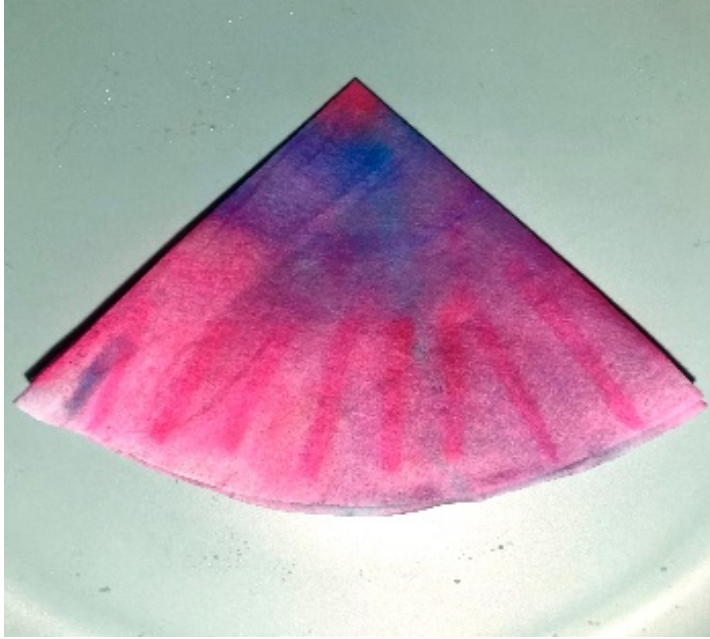
Step 3:

→ Cut into the filter to create wings. You can use a pencil to outline where you want to cut to make your piece look more like wings.

There you have a butterfly friend!



Flowers



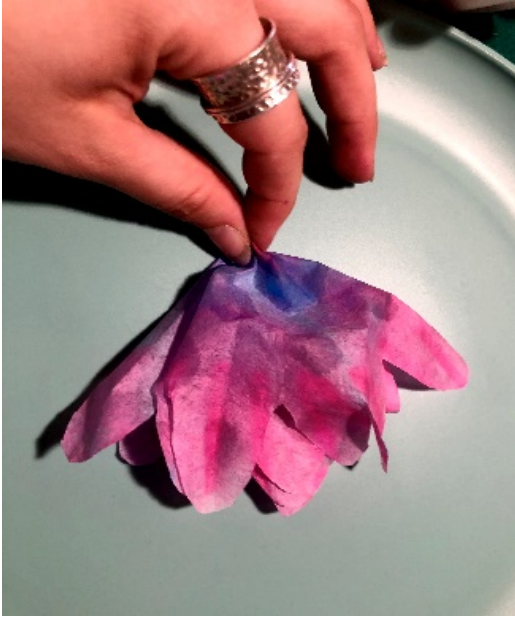
Step 1:

→ Fold the filter in half once, and then fold it in half again. When it is folded into quarters you will have a triangle shape.



Step 2:

→ Cut the end of the triangle in the shape of petals.



Step 3:

→ Unfold the filter and then pinch the middle of the filter.



Step 4:

→ Twist the center of the filter until it resembles a stem.



Step 5:

→ Wrap string around the stem to secure it and tie of the stem.

Finally, you will have a fun flower for you butterfly to sit on.

