“Something Out Of Nothing”

by M.C. Baker
grades KG-4
time frame: 5-40 minutes!

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
This is the project that got my family through long flights, dinners out, and my students LOVE this project. It allows for creativity, drawing, and imaginations to fly.

The Book Of Mistakes
Author / Illustrator: Corinna Luyken

Zoom meets Beautiful Oops! in this memorable picture book debut about the creative process, and the way in which “mistakes” can blossom into inspiration

One eye was bigger than the other. That was a mistake.
The weird frog-cat-cow thing? It made an excellent bush.
And the inky smudges… they look as if they were always meant to be leaves floating gently across the sky.

As one artist incorporates accidental splotches, spots, and misshapen things into her art, she transforms her piece in quirky and unexpected ways, taking readers on a journey through her process. Told in minimal, playful text, this story shows readers that even the biggest “mistakes” can be the source of the brightest ideas—and that, at the end of the day, we are all works in progress, too.

Fans of Peter Reynolds’s Ish and Patrick McDonnell’s A Perfectly Messed-Up Story will love the funny, poignant, completely unique storytelling of The Book of Mistakes. And,
like Oh, The Places You’ll Go!, it makes the perfect graduation gift, encouraging readers to have a positive outlook as they learn to face life’s obstacles. (Amazon)

ART ACTIVITIES / PROJECTS
Have any scrap paper will do. You should also have pencils, pens, or markers. In my opinion, it works best with TWO different colors of markers. One person takes a marker and makes a scribble. Nothing recognizable. Just a scribble. The words I use are, “make nothing”. Then the first person hands it to the second person. The second person’s job is to make something from this “nothing” doodle. It is kind of like the childhood game of looking at a cloudy sky and naming what you see. Love this game. Love this book!

Step 1: Here is my “nothing”....

Step 2: Here is what I imagined....