Creatures of the Bay - Watercolor Silhouettes

Making this simple and satisfying craft introduces you to three captivating creatures of the San Francisco Bay. Meet the Bat Ray, the Harbor Porpoise and the Rockfish.

Bat rays get their name because they swim as if they are flying through the water on wings that look like bat wings. Bat rays have one to three venomous, barbed spines at the base of their long tail, where the tail meets the body. These docile animals only sting to defend themselves. Female bat rays hatch their eggs inside their bodies.

What you need:

Coffee Filter (or thinner white paper that lets the light through)
Watercolor & paintbrush (markers will work also)
Small cup of water
Printed silhouette (or use a black marker or black paper)
Scissors
Glue
Tape

1. Flatten a coffee filter on the table.
2. Make your coffee filter look like beautiful ocean water in two ways. Use a marker to cover most of the coffee filter in scribbles. Briefly drip or spray water over it and the marker will spread across the filter filling in the white gaps. The other way is to paint the whole coffee filter with water colors.
3. Set aside the coffee filter to dry.
4. Print silhouette from second page of this PDF or, if you don’t have a printer, go to step 5.
5. Cut out silhouette. If you are unable to print one, you can either draw a silhouette with a black marker directly on the completely dry coffee filter, or cut one out using black paper.
7. Tape to a window and admire your beautiful artwork!
Print out these silhouettes of creatures that can be found in the San Francisco Bay. Use one or use them all! If you don’t have a printer, make your own.

**FUN FACT**

Harbor Porpoises are the smallest of the porpoises. These playful creatures, largely missing from the San Francisco Bay for 60 years, have made a great comeback! Look for them when you walk across the Golden Gate Bridge.

Rockfish get their name because they hide in the rocks deep below the ocean. More than 70 different varieties of this bass-like fish swim around the North American shorelines. This fish has also been known to live up to 200 years!