Film activate:
The Hero’s Journey

1 SYMBOLS are objects, characters, figures or colors used to represent abstract ideas or concepts. The main source behind the spirits in Spirited Away comes from the native Shinto tradition of Japan, which is based on the reverence for the natural and believes that all things, from rivers to rocks to plants have an essential spirit behind them.

Pretend you have a pen pal in Japan and you are about to tell your new friend about this film. What would you say about what these symbols mean in the movie?

2 Let’s create a spirit that we can take along with us and that we can be friends with. Follow the steps below and copy any element you’d like from page 2.

Step 1: Find a small, smooth rock, soak in hot water for a few minutes, scrub away any dirt with a brush or the abrasive side of a sponge.

Step 2: Use a variety of brushes and acrylic paint to turn your rock into No Face. Draw with a marker first if easier. Do the first layer and let dry 10 minutes.

Step 3: Add as many details as you wish. Be aware of how you hold the rock so you don’t smear the fresh paint.

Step 4: Let dry completely. If you want a shiny look, add a layer of clear Elmer’s glue or Mod Podge onto your rock and let stand for another 10 minutes to dry. Take your spirit with you in your pocket or bag anywhere.

Supplies Needed:
- Rock, toothbrush, sponge, soap
- Assorted brushes, acrylic paint
- Elmer’s glue or Mod Podge
Color the elements following the key: Bl-Black Y-Yellow R-Red Br-Brown G-Green P-Pink Gr-Grey Pu-Purple