



WILD & SCENIC[®] FILM FESTIVAL

where activism gets inspired



Dear Educators & Families,

Thank you for participating in the 2020 Wild and Scenic Film Festival. The mission of our festival is to inspire activism, and we hope these lessons empower your students to take an essential role in transforming their local ecosystems and communities for the better.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Wild & Scenic Film Festival Team wants to ease the burden of distance learning for families, while still creating opportunities for parents, educators and youth to still tap into excitement, creativity and inspiration connected to our natural world. Now, more than ever, is the time to share ideas and stay connected about ways to channel our passions into action! Even in your own home, there are still easy, interactive and fun ways for children of all ages to be inspired by and make positive change for our environment.

Thus, our team offers you a "Art-I-Vism Through Recycled Art" activity that is easy and fun for K-4 students to do on their own, or together as a family! The activity focuses on a central theme from our films: reducing the impact of plastic pollution in our oceans.

Through the creation of their very own art projects, we hope your students will cultivate a better understanding of the importance of reducing single-use plastics, so that your local waterways and their wildlife may thrive.

If you have any questions about the curriculum, feel free to contact our team (see our email contact information below).

We thank you again for your participation in and support of the 2020 Wild and Scenic Film Festival, and we hope this activity helps your students to be the next generation of conservation activists and climate change resiliency leaders!

Sincerely,

Ray Lubitz, Shannon Hedge and Amelia Heinritz

The South Yuba River Citizens League's River Education Team

Email: rlubitz@yubariver.org



Lesson: Artivism Through Recycled Art

Films:

“Every Nine Minutes”

“Kids Speak on Plastic Pollution”

“Daniel”



“Art-i-vism” Through Recycled Art

Overview

- Your kids use single-use plastic, recyclables or other trash to make an art project.

Objectives

- Your kids will appreciate how found and recycled objects can be made into art.
- Your kids will understand how plastic pollution can negatively impact their local waterways, and the wildlife that live within said local waterways.

Materials

- Wild array of trash such as food wrappers and containers, scrap paper, etc. Consider sources of recyclables at your home! Or items found in your yard!
- Glue
- Scissors
- Old T-Shirt or other “smock”
- Other craft items (e.g. crayons, markers, paint, googly eyes, extra craft pieces to glue on, etc)
- Tarp, newspaper or other cover to lay down for an “art making station”

Procedure

1. Before sharing concepts or instruction with your kids, set up a “recycled art studio” (or, if they’re old enough, they can do it on their own) by:
 - Step 1: Lay down newspaper, tarp or other protective materials for them to spill glue, paint or other craft materials on
 - Step 2: Lay out glue, scissors, crayons and other “craft materials” you can find around the house and yard
2. (Optional) Review the following vocabulary works with your kids prior to beginning the lesson: recycling, found objects, single use plastic, pollution.
3. Tell your kids that it’s not only folk artists who use recycled goods to make useful interesting-looking objects, so called fine artists (those concerned mainly about aesthetics rather than usefulness) also use recycled goods.
4. You can share with your students that, in many cases, these items are not, in fact, recycled, and often end up in landfills and then in our waterways.

5. Tell your kids they're going to get a chance to not only help save animals in rivers and oceans, but also make something cool at the same time by turning recyclables and trash into their very own art pieces.
6. Have your kids put on an old T-Shirt or "smock."
7. Have your kids gather trash or recyclables from around the house or your yard that they would want in their art piece!
8. If your kids are struggling to come up with ideas for what to make, they can go to [20 Easy Recycled Art Projects For Kids](#), or check out the photos below!



Let the Recycled Art Making Begin!

Ways Your Kids Can Share & Connect About Their Art!

- **SHARE PICTURES OF THEIR ART PROJECT**

Have you and your kids take a picture of their art project, and share it with OARS at office@oars3rivers.org, with a few sentences written on what inspired them to make their project!

- **SHARE A VIDEO OF YOUR KIDS TALKING ABOUT THEIR ART PROJECT**

Your kids can share what inspired them to make their project, or why they're passionate about keeping plastic out of the rivers and oceans and saving wildlife, or anything in between! You or your kids can share it with OARS at office@oars3rivers.org.

- **HAVE A FAMILY MEMBER INTERVIEW THEM ABOUT THEIR PROCESS**

Have an older sibling looking for something to do with their younger siblings? Have them interview their sibling about their art project (or they can create one together too!)

Some interview Questions could include:

1. What inspired you to make this art project?
2. If you hadn't used this trash to make this art project, what do you think happens to the trash instead? Where does it go?
3. If the trash ended up in a stream, where do you think it would go from there?
4. Did you have a goal for what you were making, or did it unfold as you worked?
5. What are some pieces of trash that you used in your project? And, can you think of some re-usable alternatives you, as a family, can start using instead? (e.g. reusable produce bags instead of plastic bags?)
 - Be sure to check out our "9 Easy Ways to Use Less Plastic" below!
6. What are some other ways in which you could reduce the amount of single use plastic you use?
7. What do you think are the one or two most important reasons to try to reduce the amount of plastic you use in your life, now that you've seen how much single use trash we use?

9 Easy Ways to Use Less Plastic

Plastic is one of the most prominent pollutants of our earth and ocean. It just makes sense to find easy ways to use less.



Tip 1

Drink out of glasses.



Tip 2

Use a stainless water bottle and stop buying bottled water.



Tip 3

Keep a real (metal or wooden) spoon and fork in a baggy in your car, and at your desk.



Tip 4

Purchase wooden toys.



Tip 5

Use only real or biodegradable plates.



Tip 6

Save glass jars and use them instead of Tupperware.



Tip 7

Bring cloth bags to the grocery store, say no to store clerks when they want to put your item(s) in a plastic bag.



Tip 8

Compost so you use fewer garbage bags.



Tip 9

Buy grocery items packaged in glass instead of plastic when possible.



MORE INFORMATION: THEPUREBAR.COM