

Freshwater Tool Kit

Water Art



Grade Levels: 3rd through 12th

Subject Areas: Art, Science and Ecology

Background Discussion:

We are so lucky to live in a water-rich area, on the shores of a Great Lake and with some of the best drinking water in the world. Water affects every aspect of our life and multiple times a day. Human, animal or plant life would not exist without water. Over the centuries water has influenced artistic expression. Now it's your turn to connect with water and create a piece of art.

Choose anyone of the projects below or come up with your own theme to show the beauty and power of water or to demonstrate how to protect our waters.

Activity Summary:

Students will create works of art with a water focus. They can use art as an educational tool to show people how they are harming or wasting water resources, or how to protect water or show the beauty of water. Find the artists in your group!

The finished pieces of art can be used to decorate the classroom, hallway or school entrance or you can even do a contest.

Art Project Ideas:

- 3D Water Cycle Model – Create the water cycle as a diorama in a box or free-standing.
- Cartoon or Comic Strip – Create a funny scene with characters that shows people protecting waters.
- Collage – Create a collage of a water drop or scene or pictures of the 3 states of water or how we use water.
- Board Game – Design a water-themed board game like a water cycle game or change a popular board game into a water-focused game, i.e. Monopoly becomes Hydropolopoly or Jenga becomes Water Cycle Jenga....
- Graphic logo – Design a logo for a water protection project



- Nature Art – Take a walk along a beach, river or in the park and collect natural items like leaves, feathers, rocks, sticks, weeds or flowers from native plants to make a piece of art about water. The items can be glued to a board or in a box. The theme can be a water scene, a fish, insect, animal or sculpture.
- Outdoor Art – Do a cleanup of a beach, river, school yard, or park and use the garbage collected to make an art sculpture.
- Painting – Paint a water scene showing people enjoying water or with wildlife and/or fish.
- Pebble Art – create a wave, fish or other water scene with pebbles or painted pebbles or rocks
- Photography – Create a project using photography to capture local or beautiful water scenes or show how we use water or how it moves in a storm.
- Posters – Design a poster to help protect water, i.e. don't pollute, pick up dog waste, use ran barrels, pick-up garbage or conserve water.
- Super Hero – Create and name a super hero that protects waterways
- Water Mobile, Sculpture or Statue – create any of these types of art with a water focus using recycled material, cloth, foil, paper, wood, metal or wax paper.

