

Lesson: Recycled Art

Grade: 2

Objectives:

Students will:

Discover that materials for creating art can be found, rather than bought

Use the items they've collected to create a piece of art

Write a story to go along with their completed piece

Materials: items that students have been collecting for a week, fishing line, scissors, glue, easily bendable wire (can use discarded phone wire), photos of art from junk, strong branch, discarded metal, corrugated cardboard

Presentation: Show students the photos of art from discarded items (see "Collect and Recycle" Lesson Plan). Explain that today they will use some of the items they have found to create a piece of art.

There are many ways to approach this, but one example is a simple wind chime, made from metal objects tied with fishing line to a sturdy branch.

Demonstrate how to attach items by tying fishing line to branch and to 4 or 5 metal objects. Be sure the objects will touch each other when wind blows.

Students might want to make a sculpture, by wiring or gluing together found objects onto a base of cardboard, or a collage by drawing a picture on a piece of cardboard, and gluing torn up old cards or papers to fill it in.

There is no one "right answer" to this, as each child will have an idea of what they want to make. Providing a few ideas at the beginning should get them thinking.

Directions:

1. Remove items from your bag and look at them to decide what you would like to create with them.
2. Using glue, scissors, wire or fishing line, build or arrange your art piece.
3. Decide on a title for your work, and then write a story to go with it.
4. Have a "gallery" display of your finished art, and share stories by reading them to the class.

Time: 60-90minutes