PARRISH ART MUSEUM

Parrish Home Art Studios

PLASTIC BOTTLE FISHES

Create plastic bottle fish and under sea environments inspired by Coral Reef from Raynor Country Day School. This collaborative sculpture is featured in the 2020 Student Exhibition and was made from plastic bottles, Styrofoam, bottle tops, cardboard, wood, paint, and other found objects.

Materials
Plastic water or soda bottles
Scissors
Glue
Tape
Paint or papers for decoration
Materials such as beads, buttons, sequins, etc.

DAY 1

Find a plastic bottle, remove the cap, and place on its side. Squish the bottom of the bottle until it is mostly flat (this will be harder for soda bottles). About a third of the way up from the bottom cut a triangle shape into each side. Tape over the area you just cut. Now, design the fish! Will it be a goldfish, rainbow fish, or one covered in polka dots?
Use paint, papers and other materials to decorate the bottle any way you choose!

Left: Painted soda bottle fish. Right: Water bottle fish decorated with construction paper.

DAY 2

Build an environment for your fish. Fish live in virtually all aquatic habitats. Different species of fish are adapted for different habitats, such as rocky shores, coral reefs, kelp forests, rivers and streams, lakes and ponds, under sea ice, the deep sea, and other environments.

Research one of these habitats and create an environment for your fish! While you’re making the environment, think about the other creatures and plants that live there.

Materials
Cardboard box, such as a pizza box or shoe box
Paint
Markers
Paper
Glue
Beads, pipe cleaners, and any other craft material

TAKE IT FURTHER

Explore the Pacific Coral Reef on the National Aquarium’s live webcam: Click Here!
Take a look at Joe Zucker’s painting, Aquarium, in the Parrish Collection: Click Here!