

Shimmering Sea

—Human Aesthetics, Environmental Irony, and Species Crisis

Glitter pollute oceans, causing mass fish deaths . Humans counter this by genetically engineering colorful fish satirizing our pursuit of beauty amid environmental harm and a species crisis.

In the immersive 'Shimmering Sea' space, plastic bags and marine debris craft aquatic creatures. Visitors control fish through gestures and sound, sensing their distress via vibrations and rapid light flickers.

• Video List: <https://youtu.be/w1mG8gA6eKY>



Inspiration 1

—Glitter & Pollution: Inside The Beauty Industry's Latest Controversy



"Glitter looks like shimmering plankton. Most fish are attracted to shimmering objects that catch the light." From the microscopic glitter particles to shampoo bottles, the **beauty** industry has become a major factor to ocean pollution.

GLITTER MICROBEAD



glitter microbead found on beach



A single plastic microbead has the capacity to **be one million times more toxic** than the water around it.

Glitter has **sharp edges** that pose more of a hazard at **tearing and perforating guts** of fishes.

It is estimated that **8 million tons** of plastic enter our oceans each year. Currently, over **90% of fish** have plastic fragments and microplastics in their stomachs.

Inspiration 2

—Human beings impose the aesthetic preferences onto animals



Teacup puppy

Sought after for their **small size**, face the problems due to breeding practices that choose to **prioritize miniaturization** over their well-being



Scottish Fold

Resulting in health issues like **hearing problems**, joint concerns, and **neurological complications**, raising ethical and welfare concerns.



Gene-edited fish

By introducing **exogenous genes** into the fish's body, fish can acquire specific aesthetic features, such as **denser scale** and more **vibrant colors**.

Brain Storm

—Excessive aesthetics could lead to marine pollution and drastic fish population decline
Glitter and other chemical substances cause marine pollution, resulting in mass fish deaths and a sharp decline in their numbers. Simultaneously, humans employ genetic mutation techniques to create colorful fish, aligning with human aesthetics.

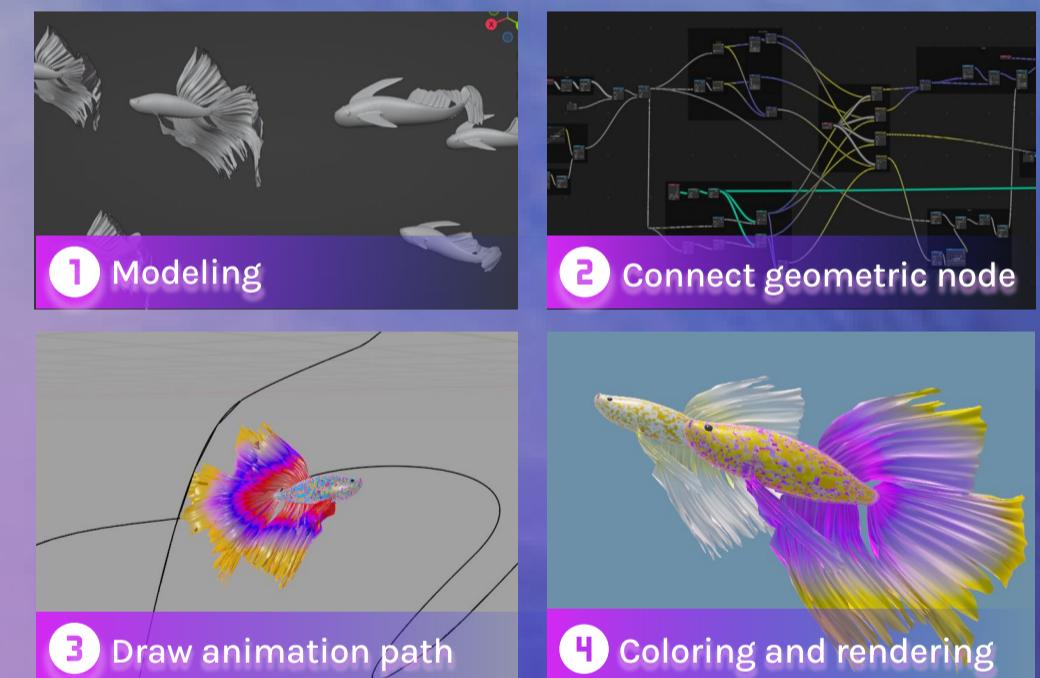
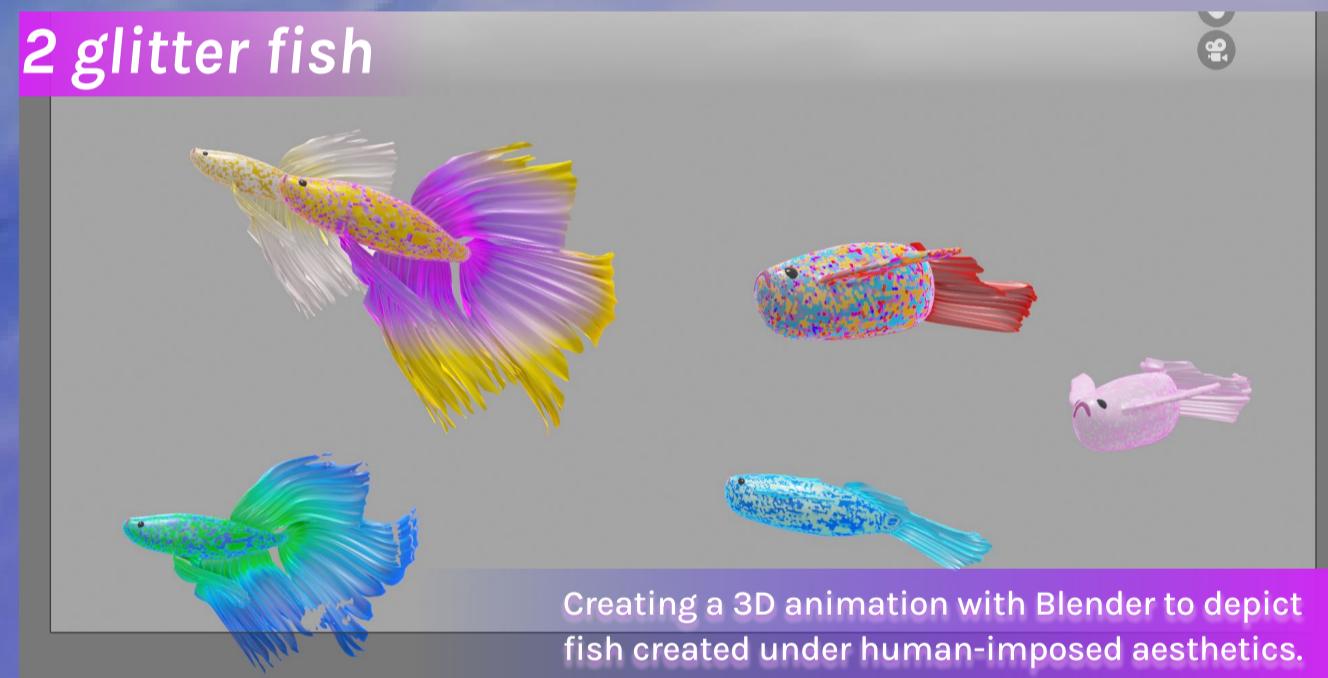
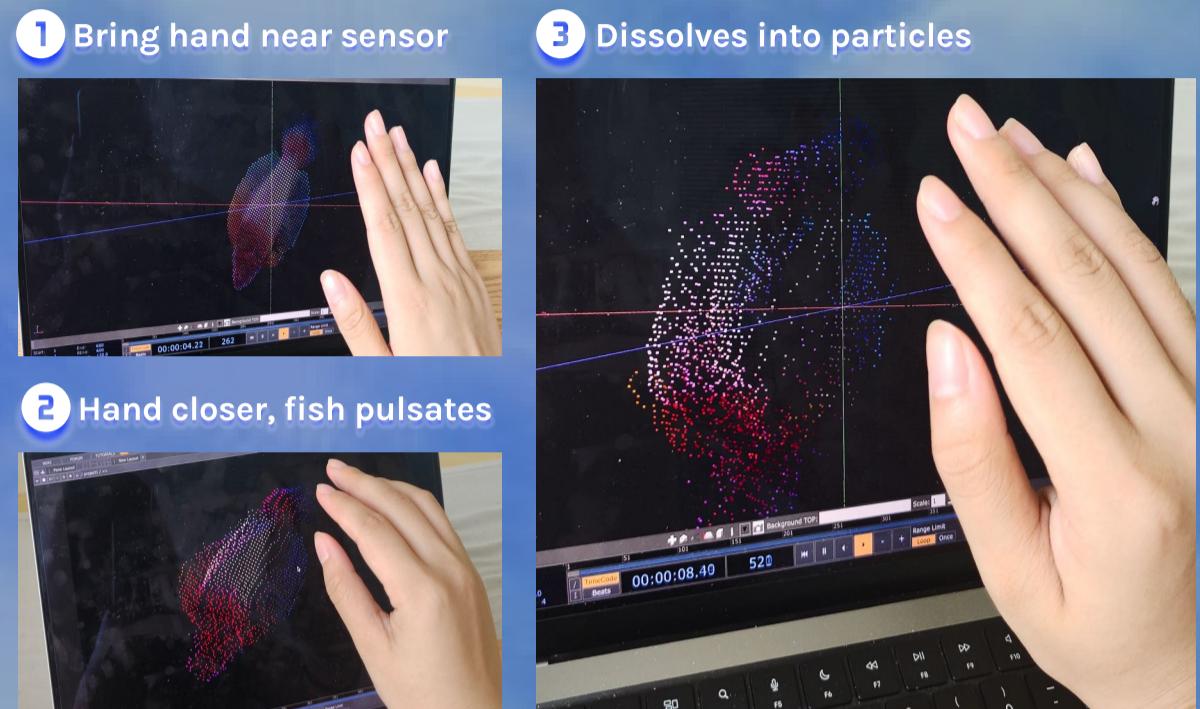
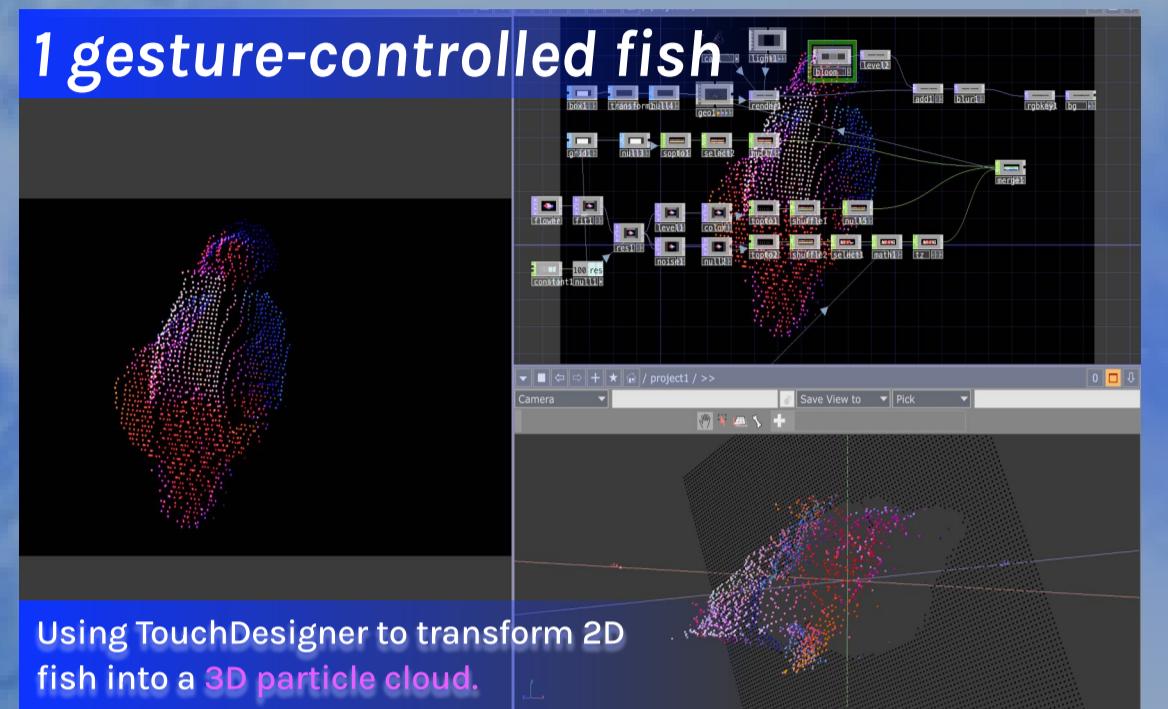


Mind Map



Animation

—Using TouchDesigner for Gesture-Controlled fish & Blender for 3D Fish Animation
I utilized TouchDesigner for Particle Ocean and Gesture-Controlled Fish, and Blender for 3D Fish Animation, along with employing interactive media screen forms such as projection and Leap Motion sensor for interaction.



PROCESS –Fabricate the arm device and main device

Arm device

1 Shape the materials using UV glue and the waste plastic foam sheet, then proceed with heating and curing under UV light.



2 Coloring the components with glass paint



3 Carefully assemble the components into the shape of a fish and then wear it on the arm. The use of vibrant, multi-colored plastic fish symbolizes the impact of cosmetics on ocean pollution and marine life.



Main device

I create a visually stunning marine environment using an array of plastic pollutants, symbolizing the shackles imposed on the oceans by human excesses in the pursuit of beauty.



seaweed crafted from foam board



flowers made from bubble wrap



plants made from plastic ribbons



an ocean made from plastic bags



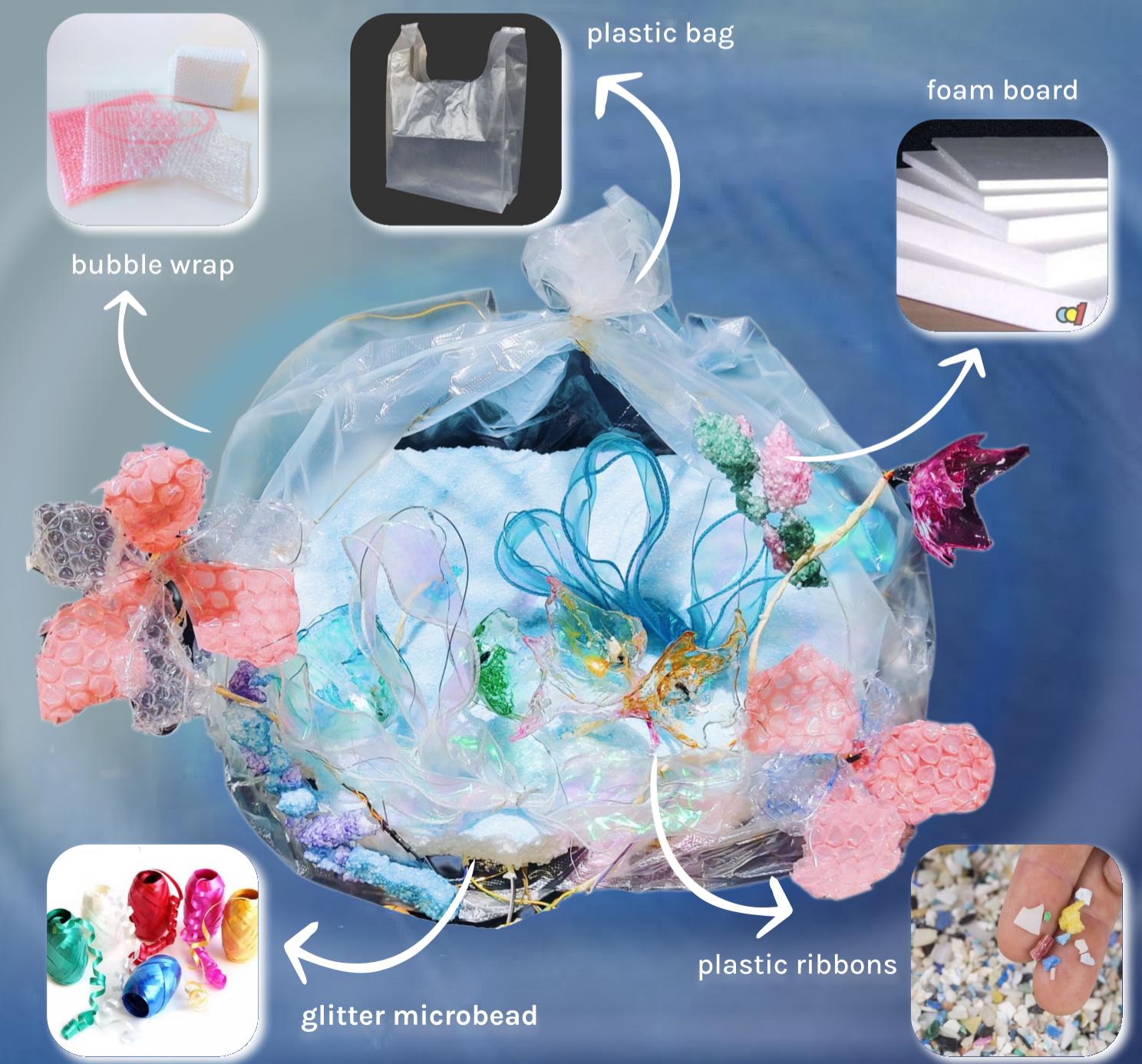
Assemble a mirror frame using wood, apply a layer of white paint to the frame, and decorate the mirror with various plastic ornaments.



To enhance the visual presentation, plastic bags are utilized to bind the fish, while all marine life is meticulously crafted from plastic waste materials, symbolizing the pervasive issue of ocean pollution.

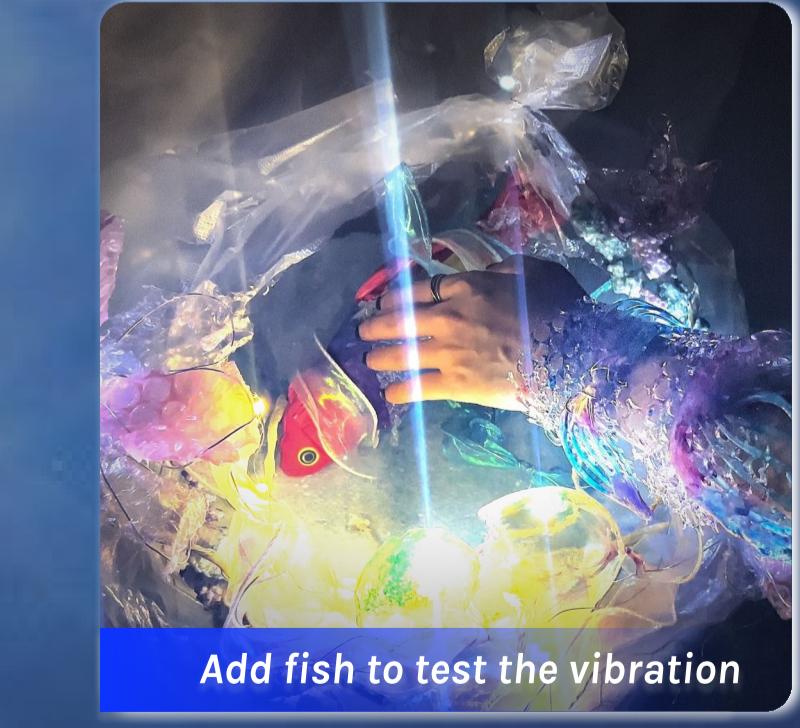
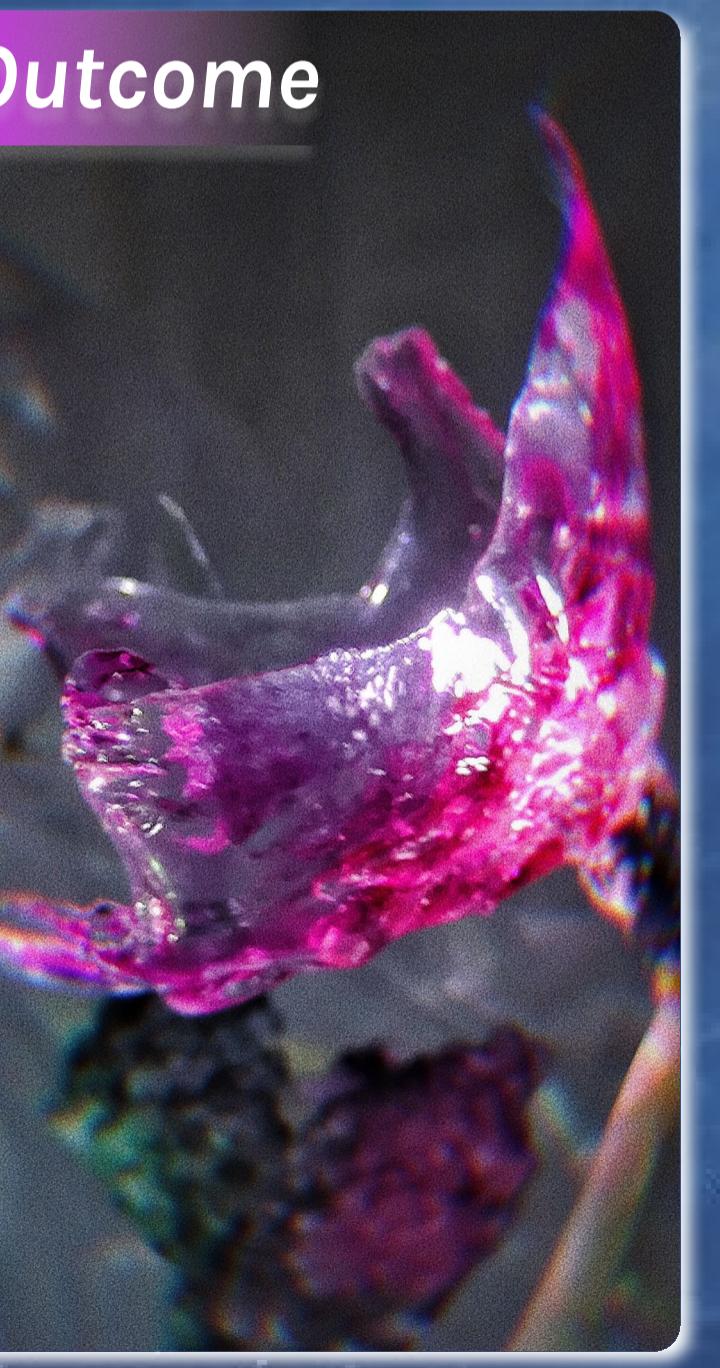
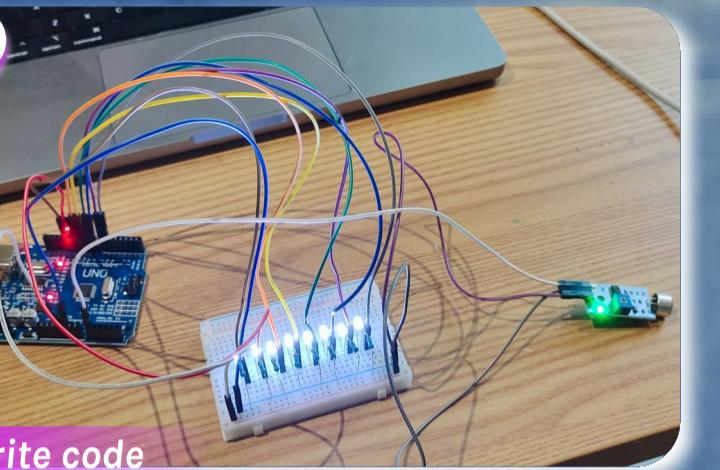


Utilize UV glue to craft plastic flowers and add vibrant colors to enhance the look



Programming

– Arduino pattern sensor flicker



Interaction

—Enter the room and follow the indicator tone for an immersive experience

