

Mural Sea collab

Intended grade level(s) / age(s): Pre-K

Big Idea / Central concept:

Collaboration & working together as a whole class to combine semester-long projects and create sea animals

Essential Questions:

- How can we work together to make one big sea picture/ mural?
- Where do certain sea creatures live?
- What happens when everyone adds their own sea animals and plants?

National Arts Standard(s):

- **VA:Cn10.1.Pka:** Explore the world using descriptive and expressive words and art-making.
- **VA:Re.7.1.Pka** Recognize art in one's environment
- **VA:Cr1.1.PKa** Engage in self-directed play with materials.

OH State Arts Standard(s):

- K.1CR Explore environments and experiences to generate original artmaking ideas
- K.1PE Demonstrate willingness to try new processes
- K.3PE Communicate an idea using the elements of art.

Artists/Artwork to be Discussed/Shared:

- Mural inspired by Fiona and the Bibi at the Cincinnati Zoo:
 - Artists Kara Crowe, Callie Dorsey, Brooklyn Hart, Liam Smith, Aminata Thiam
 - Designer Lucie Rice

Key Vocabulary

- Collaboration – Working together and helping each other to make something special as a team.
- Mural – A big picture or artwork that we make on a wall or large paper for everyone to see.
- Ecosystem - a community of living things such as plants, animals, and their environment (water, sand) all working together
- Habitat - the natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism

Learning Objectives:

- Students will collaboratively work together to create a sea scene mural
- Students will integrate artwork into the mural throughout the camp session.
- Students will create at least three sea animals or plants with mixed media

Art Activity:

In this collaborative mural lesson, students will work together to create a large underwater sea scene that combines elements from their semester-long projects. Students will discuss how collaboration brings individual artworks together to form a unified design. Following a short demonstration on how to make sea animals and plants, students will design and decorate their own pieces using construction paper, markers, and crayons. They will then integrate at least two of their previous artworks into the mural to create one



cohesive ocean environment. This project encourages creativity, teamwork, and connection between personal and collective artistic expression.

Materials:

Fish + Starfish

- Colored construction paper Pre-Cut out Shapes)
- Markers, Crayons,
- Googly eyes

Sea Cucumbers

- Felt cut-out shapes
- Yarn
- Assorted accessories (pom poms, sequins)
- Liquid Glue

Octopus

- Safety Scissors
- Markers & Crayons
- Googly eyes

General

- [Presentation Slides](#)
- Book in Slides
- Mural Paper

Lesson Sequence

Opening Activity/Discussion/Presentation (10 minutes)

1. To begin the lesson, students will watch live video feeds of coral reefs or ocean habitats to help set a calm and engaging atmosphere. This visual introduction encourages curiosity about marine life while allowing students to make observations and personal connections. → <https://explore.org/livecams/aquarium-of-the-pacific/pacific-aquarium-tropical-reef-camera>
2. After a few minutes of observation, I will guide a short discussion to help students reflect on what they noticed.

Discussion prompts

- A. What do you see happening in the reef?
- B. Are there any animals you can identify?
- C. Did you notice anything new or unfamiliar?
- D. What colors, patterns, or shapes stand out to you?
- E. Which animal are you most drawn to, and why?

3. I will then present on key vocab and featured artwork then to transition into the art-making process, I will present a short slideshow featuring different ocean animals that they'll create in the activity.

Artistic Production (45 minutes) + Short activities (should be about 25 Minutes)

1. Students will rotate through **three art-making stations**, each focused on a different sea creature. Every station will have a specific creative goal and a timer set for approximately 15 minutes. There will be three students per station, with each teacher leading a demo

Station breakdown:

- A. **Sea Cucumbers** – exploring texture and form
- B. **Fish and Starfish** – focusing on shape and color
- C. **Octopus** – emphasizing getting used to scissors and fine motor skills

2. Between each rotation, students will have a brief movement and sensory break. A short **sea animal dance video** or an **interactive under-the-sea theme video** will be played

3. To close, I will read a short ocean-themed children's book, maybe Rainbow Fish, as Luke suggested

Clean-Up (5 minutes)

When the timer has reached the 2-minute mark, we will encourage students to finish up and maybe say, "Let's make sure our workspace is ready for the next group."

Reflection/Closure (10 minutes)

When students finish, guide them to add their pieces to the large mural paper or wall display, arranging their creations... Encourage teamwork language: "Let's find a spot where your fish can swim with your friend's turtle!"

Assessment

	Excellent	Satisfactory	Needs Attention	Assessment Method
Students will collaboratively work together to create a sea scene mural	Consistently engages with peers and contributes ideas to the group mural.	Participates in the group project but receives occasional reminders to share or stay on task.	Rarely participates or disrupts group work	Artistic Production
Students will integrate artwork throughout the semester into the mural.	Students make at least 2 connections from past lessons through materials, techniques, and concepts.	Students make at least 1 connection from past lessons through materials, techniques, and concepts.	Students cannot make connections from the past lessons.	Artistic Production
Students will create at least three sea animals or plants with construction paper	Completes three or more sea animals	Completes fewer than two animals/plants or leaves work unfinished.	Playing or improper use of materials.	Artistic Production