

Eco-Art Activity for Extinct & Endangered Marine Species: Blessing Flag Lesson Plan



“People Protect What They Love” - Jacques Cousteau

*See Attached PDF for background and lesson plan by Kristinha Anding

We have laminated color prints of the marine animal photos ready to use and precut flags in the PTA Art room. (lower cabinets)

Materials:

Duck cloth cut into 7” x 8” flags

Sharpies (black brown or blue) (1 per student)

Paint brushes (smaller tip works best)

Acrylic paint (aquatic colors)

*They will only be using small amount of paint.

*Have the colors pre-selected

*Place in small mixing dish that students can share
(4 students per dish)

Safety Pins (2 per flag)

Method:

Each student picks an endangered animal from laminated selections and a flag.

Rough sketch out animal with pencil or just go straight to sharpie & paint.

Please remember to have students write name of animal on the front of the flag
Students name on back of flag so we can return them.

Students often want to make a second or third flag so would I take some extras.

Please attach 2 safety pins to the top of each flag so we can string them up for Earth Day!

Thank you for participating in this Earth Day Event!

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This activity is a beautiful way for students to connect with endangered animals through art. This connection can be the foundation for creating love for our planet and the species that need our protection.

Idea for Simple Messaging (K-3)

Just tell them that we used to think the ocean was so big that it was limitless. So we took, and fished, and whaled, and dumped as much as we wanted. Now we realize that we've taken too much, altered habitats, changed the water chemistry, dumped too much garbage, and as a result many animals in the sea are nearly extinct or in danger of it.

Class, what can you do to help this problem?
Let them make guesses, then guide them to

- Keep plastic and pollution out of ocean. Use less plastic.
- Help Take care of the Beach:
- Don't disturb marine life/tide pools, Do not collect rocks or coral...
- Mind your carbon footprint: carpool, walk or bike, turn off lights...
- Learn what seafood is responsible to eat (MBRI guide)
- Influence change in your community.
- Educate yourself about oceans and marine life.
- Support projects that raise awareness like this one.

Simple Messaging (Grades 4-6th)

See National Geographic 10 things you can do to Save the Ocean - (*attached)

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