










WATERCOLOUR BLOBS PLANKTON

Who made it?

The artwork in the above picture was made by artist Lianne Edwards and is part of her current exhibition *Lianne Edwards: Sentinels & Sea Change* at Tauranga Art Gallery. Lianne is very passionate about the environment and the health of our oceans. To learn more about Lianne and her art, check out our website or see if you can find some of her other artworks on Google 😊

What you will need:

-  Wet strength cartridge or any thicker card or paper
-  Big round paint brush
-  Watercolours*
-  Water
-  Fineliner or any other kind of pen
-  Colouring pencils
-  Scissors & glue
-  Black paper
-  Optional: paper or reusable straw and/or hair dryer

*Alternatives: use other paints you have at home and dilute them with water OR mix ¼ tsp of food colouring with ½ tsp of water

Interesting fact!

Lianne tries to use mostly recycled materials for her artworks. The plankton in the above picture was made from small plastics and parts of fishing gear that Lianne and her friends found on beaches in New Zealand and other parts of the world.

Get ready to make some art!

Step 1

Using watercolours and plenty of water, make heaps of colourful blobs! Make sure your paint brush is fully soaked and let the paint dribble out while you move your hand across the paper. Try out different colours but make sure you rinse your paint brush in between!



Step 2

Fill the entire paper with blobs! Try to make a lot of different blobs: big blobs, small blobs, tidy blobs, messy blobs, etc. You can create funky and interesting looking blobs by blowing into the wet paint. This will add character to your plankton! If you want, you could also use a drinking straw and/or hair dryer to blow into your blobs.



Step 3

Wait until your blobs have fully dried. Have a closer look at all the shapes that you created. Can you spot any creatures that look a bit like plankton? You might want to google pictures of plankton for inspiration and to help you spot more creatures in your painting.

FANCY ART WORD!

To *enhance details* means to make the important parts of your art pop out more by improving or highlighting them

Step 4

If you find a blob that looks a bit like a plankton, use a pen and/or coloured pencils to add body parts such as eyes, arms, legs, antennas, spikes, claws, etc. Using colouring pencils, you can draw directly over the dried blobs in order to enhance details by creating new shades of colour or by adding patterns and textures. Use a white pencil to lighten up areas that are too dark. Cut out your plankton and glue it onto black paper.



WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOUR MASTERPIECE! Ask an adult to help you take a picture and tag @taurangaartgallery, or send it for us to see at education@artgallery.org.nz

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