

Recycled Landscape

Grade 8 – Visual Arts



Lesson Details

Grade Level:	8	Curriculum Links:	Visual Arts	Time Needed:	1.5 hours
Learning Goal	To create a landscape that represents the ecosystem an Ontario turtle would live in. To create their landscape students will use clean recyclables collected from home to raise awareness of pollution in the environment.				
Success Criteria	By the end of this lesson, students will have constructed a landscape out of clean recyclables and reflected on the importance of keeping the environment clean.				
Specific Expectations	<p><i>Visual Arts</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create artworks, using a variety of traditional forms and current media technologies, that express feelings, ideas, and issues and that demonstrate an awareness of multiple points of view; • Use elements of design in artworks to communicate ideas, messages, and understandings for a specific audience and purpose; • Use a variety of materials, tools, techniques, and technologies to determine solutions to increasingly complex design challenges: drawing, mixed media, painting, printmaking, and sculptures; • Interpret a variety of artworks and identify the feelings, issues, themes, and social concerns that they convey; • Demonstrate an understanding of how to read and interpret signs, symbols, and style in artworks. 				
Materials Needed	Worksheet (attached), Pencil, Scissors, Glue, Tape, Clean Recyclables (provided by students).				

Lesson Description

Overview	Students will construct a sculpture representing the landscape that a turtle would live in from clean recyclables. Students will learn about and reflect on the importance of keeping the environment clean.
Activity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Before the lesson, ask students to bring in clean recyclables from their homes for the purpose of the activity. 2. Discuss with the class the importance of keeping the environment clean. Ask the students, “what happens when the environment becomes polluted?”, and “how does pollution affect animals, like turtles?”. 3. Ask students to create a landscape out of their recyclables; the landscape must represent an ecosystem that a turtle would live in. 4. Once complete, arrange the classroom as a viewing gallery. 5. Distribute the attached worksheet to the class and have the students complete it while circulating through the gallery.
Background Information	<p>Turtles live in aquatic habitats including ponds, lakes and rivers, but are most often found in wetlands. Wetlands are habitats that are needed and used by more than 70% of all of Ontario's mammals, birds, fish, amphibians, and insects. They are arguable the most important and diverse habitats in the world.</p> <p>Pollution is the introduction of harmful materials into the environment; these harmful materials are known as pollutants. Pollutants can be created by human activity, such as</p>

Lesson Description

	trash or runoff from factories. Pollutants damage the quality of air, water, and land. All living things depend on Earth's supply of air and water. When these resources are polluted, all forms of life are threatened.
Blacklist Masters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worksheet (attached) • Video Link(s): How You Can Help Ontario Turtles, Threats to Ontario Turtles, and Wetlands and Turtles in Ontario • For more information, please visit https://www.turtleguardians.com/sample-page/turtle-habitats/
Place-Based Learning	Students will become more conscious about their affect on the environment. Students are encouraged to visit a local wildlife area for inspiration.
Inquiry-Based Learning	<p>Using Structured Inquiry, the students will work independently to create their art pieces.</p> <p>Ask the students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is pollution? What is a pollutant? • What happens when the environment becomes polluted? • How does pollution affect animals, like turtles? • What can we do to help ensure the environment stays clean?
Turtle Stories	How do you plan to ensure a clean and healthy environment in your local community? Organize a community clean up to remove garbage and other pollutants from nature. Students are encouraged to share their experiences, pictures, and landscapes on the Turtle Stories website, found here: https://www.turtlestories.ca/
Turtle Guardian Program Links	After completing Level 1 (Ontario Turtle Identification) of the Turtle Guardian Program , students can move onto Level 2 (Wetland Watchers). In this level the students learn how to monitor wetland habitats, contribute to knowledge of wildlife-biology in the region, and are able to adopt a wetland to monitor for turtles, birds, and other animals. For more information, please visit https://www.turtleguardians.com/what-is-a-turtle-guardian/

My Notes



Recycled Landscape Reflection

What is pollution? What is a pollutant?

Pollution is the introduction of harmful materials into the environment, these harmful materials are known as pollutants.

What happens when the environment becomes polluted?

When the environment becomes polluted, the pollutants can damage the quality of air, water, and land.

How does pollution affect animals, like turtles?

For turtles, when their environment becomes polluted their life can be dramatically affected. As turtles live both on land and in water, when any one of those are polluted the turtle's life become threatened.

What can you do to help ensure the environment stays clean?

To ensure the environment stays clean, re-occurring clean-ups of land and water may take place to rid the environment of physical pollutants. In addition, speaking with local politicians about the need of a clean, pollution free, environment can lead to good change.

What are two things you like about your art piece?

Next, walk through the art gallery of recycled landscapes. Choose three pieces to answer the following questions about.

(1) Student Name: _____

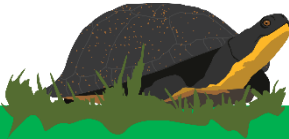
(1) What is one thing you liked about their art piece?

(2) Student Name: _____

(2) What is one thing you liked about their art piece?

(3) Student Name: _____

(3) What is one thing you liked about their art piece?



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