LESSON PLAN: TRASH TO TREASURE

Subject:	Grade:	Duration:
Arts	1-5	1-4 hours
Lesson Overview	Increase the impact of your beach clean by collecting and quantifying data. Use the trash to create a marine debris masterpiece. Students can use their art to tell the story of what they have learned so far.	

Curriculum Ties (in addition to satisfying multiple core competencies)

Core Competencies:

Social Responsibility 1. Contributing to community and caring for the environment 2. Solving problems in peaceful ways 3. Valuing diversity 4. Building Relationships

Subject	Grade s	Curriculum Connections (Big Ideas)
Arts	1	 Engagement in the arts creates opportunities for inquiry through purposeful play. People connect to others and share ideas through the arts
Arts	2	 Creative expression develops our unique identity and voice.
Arts	3	 The arts connect our experiences to the experiences of others. Personal and collective responsibility associated with creating, experiencing or sharing in a safe learning environment.
Arts	4	Creative expression is a means to explore and share one's identity within a community.
Arts	5	 Engaging in creative expression and experiences expands people's sense of identity and belonging.

Content Objectives

Key takeaways from this activity: beach cleaning in and of itself is not a solution to the plastic problem, and clean-ups can have a bigger impact by contributing to ongoing research and data collection. What do you intend to do with the data? Will you be recording your clean with the Great Canadian Shoreline Clean Up / another body?

How can we upcycle and reuse these plastic materials?

Materials and Equipment Needed for this Lesson

- Optional: data recording sheet tailored to your own objectives
- Glue
- Scissors
- Students can use a cardboard base to work on
- Paint
- Paint brushes
- Optional: other art supplies (depending on the type of art you want to create)

Lesson Stages	Learning Activities
Introduction	ACTIVITY: Sorting Party
	Sort the debris; suggested categories on page 12 of student workbook were developed with our own data collection systems, and those of our recycling partner Ocean Legacy, in mind. This may look different for your clean depending on your intentions.
	Make this a fun activity by making it a race, setting a time limit / incentivising. Set aside your favourite items for the art attack.

Activity	ACTIVITY: ART ATTACK
	Create art out of your debris. This can be as involved a process as you have time for. Create a mural for display in school, create costumes for a trashion-fashion catwalk, create a giant debris mosaic, or have each students create an animal with the debris and put them all together into a display - your imagination is the limit!
	Students can also create a story with their image. What message are they trying to get across through their art?
Closure	REFLECT AND WRITE/ DISCUSSION: Leadership
	Encourage students to consider what makes a good leader, discussing how leadership looks different on everyone, e.g. being an example, being a teacher, being an artist. 'Silent Appreciation' can be a powerful tool to help students think about their own leadership strengths; students anonymously write down the leadership strengths they perceive their classmates to have on slips of paper which are collected and given to the student they're about. Some easy leadership steps from this class could include sharing pictures of the debris artwork on social media with a caption highlighting a key message about plastic pollution.

Modifications / Extensions

- An additional extension here is to include some math. You can figure out the ratios of what was found etc.
- Discuss the colour wheel and incorporate aspects of colour, texture and other design elements into their creation.

Additional Information For Teachers

Some examples of things you can do:







