**Recycling and Art Week: Description**: Recycling and Art Week - Powered by PepsiCo: Description: This week focuses on promoting recycling awareness, creativity through art projects using recycled materials, and understanding the importance of sustainable practices. This program is proudly powered by PepsiCo, a leading company in sustainability initiatives. For more curriculum guidance and resources, please visit: [PepsiCo Recycling Resources](https://resources.pepsicorecycling.com/).

**Lesson Plans for Ages 0-3:**

1. **Sensory Recycling Bins**
	* Materials: Empty plastic containers, recycled materials (e.g., fabric scraps, paper rolls), sensory bins
	* Duration: 20-30 minutes
	* Description: Create sensory bins filled with recycled materials. Encourage infants and toddlers to explore the different textures and shapes while discussing the concept of recycling.
2. **Recycled Collage**
	* Materials: Recycled magazines, cardboard, glue, child-safe scissors
	* Duration: 30-45 minutes
	* Description: Assist children in cutting out pictures or shapes from recycled magazines. Provide them with cardboard and glue to create collages using the recycled materials.
3. **Bottle Cap Stamping**
	* Materials: Bottle caps, washable paint, paper
	* Duration: 15-20 minutes
	* Description: Dip bottle caps into washable paint and encourage children to stamp them onto paper, creating colorful patterns and designs.
4. **Paper Mache Pinata Materials (Mandatory Participation)**: Recycled newspaper, flour, water, balloons, colorful tissue paper, paint, ribbons or strings Duration: Multiple sessions (1-2 hours each) Description: Introduce the concept of paper mache and guide children in creating their own pinatas using recycled materials. Discuss the importance of reusing paper and transforming it into something new and fun.

**Lesson Plans for Ages 4-7:**

1. **Upcycled Bird Feeders**
	* Materials: Recycled plastic bottles, birdseed, string, scissors
	* Duration: 30-45 minutes
	* Description: Help children cut holes in plastic bottles and fill them with birdseed. Attach strings to hang the feeders outside, promoting environmental awareness and attracting birds.
2. **Recycled Sculptures**
	* Materials: Assorted recycled materials (e.g., cardboard, egg cartons, plastic bottles), glue, scissors
	* Duration: 45-60 minutes
	* Description: Guide children to create sculptures using various recycled materials. Encourage them to experiment with shapes, textures, and different adhesives.
3. **Earth Day Mosaic**
	* Materials: Recycled paper scraps, glue, poster board or cardboard
	* Duration: 30-45 minutes
	* Description: Provide children with recycled paper scraps and guide them to create a mosaic artwork on a poster board or cardboard, depicting Earth Day themes or natural landscapes.
4. **Paper Mache Pinata Materials (Mandatory Participation)**: Recycled newspaper, flour, water, balloons, colorful tissue paper, paint, ribbons or strings Duration: Multiple sessions (1-2 hours each) Description: Introduce the concept of paper mache and guide children in creating their own pinatas using recycled materials. Discuss the importance of reusing paper and transforming it into something new and fun.

**Lesson Plans for Ages 8-11:**

1. **Recycled Fashion Show**
	* Materials: Assorted recycled materials (e.g., newspapers, plastic bags, fabric scraps), tape, scissors
	* Duration: Multiple sessions (1-2 hours each)
	* Description: Organize a recycled fashion show where children design and create unique outfits using recycled materials. Encourage creativity and sustainable fashion choices.
2. **Environmental Awareness Poster**
	* Materials: Poster board, markers, recycled magazines or printed images
	* Duration: 45-60 minutes
	* Description: Guide children to create posters promoting environmental awareness. They can cut out images or use markers to illustrate messages related to recycling, conservation, or protecting the planet.
3. **Recycled Paper Making**
	* Materials: Recycled paper scraps, blender, water, mesh screens, sponges
	* Duration: 60-90 minutes
	* Description: Teach children the process of making recycled paper. Assist them in blending paper scraps, straining the pulp, and creating new paper sheets. Discuss the importance of paper recycling and reducing waste.
4. **Paper Mache Pinata Materials (Mandatory Participation)**: Recycled newspaper, flour, water, balloons, colorful tissue paper, paint, ribbons or strings Duration: Multiple sessions (1-2 hours each) Description: Introduce the concept of paper mache and guide children in creating their own pinatas using recycled materials. Discuss the importance of reusing paper and transforming it into something new and fun.

**Field Trip for Ages 8-11: Beach Clean-Up and the Great Garbage Reef of the Pacific Ocean**

**Field Trip Details: only an option with proper staffing and coverage**

* Destination: Local beach or coastal area
* Ratio: A maximum of four children per adult for safety and supervision
* Activities: Beach cleanup, sorting and categorizing collected trash, creating sculptures from found materials, discussions about the importance of ocean conservation, and critical thinking questions to explore solutions to the plastic pollution problem.

**Additional Activity: (Mandatory Participation)**

* The Great Trash Reef Simulation: Engage children in a research and critical thinking activity related to the "Great Trash Reef" of the Pacific Ocean. Provide information about the problem, its causes, and potential solutions. Encourage children to brainstorm ideas on how we can tackle this issue.

**Crafty Ideas to Help Limit Waste:**

1. Upcycled Tote Bags: Use old t-shirts or fabric scraps to create reusable tote bags, reducing the need for single-use plastic bags.
2. Recycled Paper Beads: Teach children how to make colorful beads from recycled paper, which can be used for jewelry or decorations.
3. Egg Carton Garden: Transform empty egg cartons into mini planters and encourage children to grow their own small plants or herbs.

**Staff Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Following week: Artistic Expressions**

**Lesson Plans for Ages 0-3:**

1. **Sensory Painting Materials**: Large sheets of paper, non-toxic washable paint, various tools for texture (e.g., sponges, brushes, cotton balls) Duration: 20-30 minutes Description: Set up a painting station where infants and toddlers can explore different textures and colors of paint using their hands or various tools. Encourage sensory exploration and self-expression.
2. **Bubble Wrap Printing Materials:** Bubble wrap, non-toxic washable paint, large sheets of paper Duration: 20-30 minutes Description: Spread paint on the bubble wrap and help children press the painted side onto the paper, creating unique patterns and textures. Discuss the different effects achieved by varying pressure and colors.
3. **Nature Collage Materials:** Recycled materials (e.g., leaves, flowers, twigs), child-safe glue, paper or cardboard Duration: 30-45 minutes Description: Take children on a nature walk to collect natural materials. Assist them in creating collages by arranging and gluing the materials onto paper or cardboard, creating nature-inspired artwork.
4. **Playdough Creations Materials:** Homemade or store-bought playdough, rolling pins, cookie cutters, other shaping tools Duration: 30-45 minutes Description: Provide children with playdough and various tools to create sculptures, shapes, and imaginative creations. Encourage them to explore different textures, colors, and forms.
5. **Storytelling with Art Materials:** Large sheets of paper, markers, crayons, colored pencils Duration: 30-45 minutes Description: Read a story aloud to the children, and then ask them to illustrate their favorite part of the story using the art supplies. Encourage them to share their artwork and explain their choices.
6. **(Mandatory Participation) Decorate Paper mache pinatas** created in the previous week, non-toxic paint, paintbrushes, water cups, protective clothing or aprons

Duration: 30-45 minutes

Description: It's time to bring your paper Mache pinatas to life with color! In this lesson, we'll celebrate the knowledge we've gained about oceans and the importance of proper recycling techniques. Using non-toxic paint and brushes, children will have the opportunity to paint their paper Mache creations, infusing them with vibrant hues and personal artistic expressions.

As they engage in this activity, encourage discussions about the significance of recycling, protecting our water sources, and keeping our oceans clean. Emphasize the positive impact of their recycling efforts on the environment and the role they play in preserving our planet's beauty. This celebration serves as a reminder of their dedication to creating a sustainable future.

Let creativity flow and watch as their paper mache projects become colorful symbols of their commitment to the oceans and recycling

**Lesson Plans for Ages 4-7:**

1. **Mixed Media Collage Materials:** Recycled materials (e.g., paper scraps, fabric, buttons, beads), glue, scissors, paper or canvas Duration: 45-60 minutes Description: Introduce children to mixed media art by providing a variety of recycled materials for them to create collages. Encourage layering and experimenting with different textures and materials.
2. **Splatter Painting Materials:** Large sheets of paper, non-toxic washable paint, brushes or spoons Duration: 30-45 minutes Description: Demonstrate the technique of splatter painting and let children experiment with flicking paint onto the paper using brushes or spoons. Discuss the different effects achieved by varying paint consistency and force.
3. **Recycled Sculpture Garden Materials:** Recycled materials (e.g., cardboard, plastic bottles, tin cans), glue, scissors, paint (optional) Duration: Multiple sessions (1-2 hours each) Description: Guide children to create a sculpture garden using recycled materials. They can design and build sculptures, and optionally paint them to add color and vibrancy to the garden.
4. **Printmaking with Found Objects Materials:** Recycled objects with interesting textures (e.g., bottle caps, lids, bubble wrap), non-toxic washable paint, paper Duration: 45-60 minutes Description: Explore printmaking by having children dip recycled objects into paint and press them onto paper, creating repetitive patterns and textures. Discuss the concept of printmaking and its connection to recycling.
5. **(Mandatory Participation) Decorate Paper mache pinatas** created in the previous week, non-toxic paint, paintbrushes, water cups, protective clothing or aprons

Duration: 30-45 minutes

Description: It's time to bring your paper Mache pinatas to life with color! In this lesson, we'll celebrate the knowledge we've gained about oceans and the importance of proper recycling techniques. Using non-toxic paint and brushes, children will have the opportunity to paint their paper Mache creations, infusing them with vibrant hues and personal artistic expressions.

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**Lesson Plans for Ages 8-11:**

1. **Abstract Collage Art Materials:** Recycled materials (e.g., magazines, newspapers, fabric), scissors, glue, large sheets of paper or canvas Duration: 60-90 minutes Description: Teach children about abstract art and guide them in creating collages using recycled materials. Encourage them to experiment with different shapes, colors, and compositions.
2. **Portrait Painting Materials:** Paint, paintbrushes, canvas or thick paper, reference photos or mirrors Duration: Multiple sessions (1-2 hours each) Description: Introduce children to portrait painting techniques and guide them in creating self-portraits or portraits of their peers using recycled materials. Discuss the importance of capturing facial expressions and emotions.
3. **Upcycled Sculpture Challenge Materials:** Assorted recycled materials (e.g., cardboard, plastic containers, wire), glue, scissors, paint (optional) Duration: Multiple sessions (1-2 hours each) Description: Present children with a challenge to create sculptures using only recycled materials. Encourage them to think critically and creatively while transforming ordinary objects into unique art pieces.
4. **(Mandatory Participation)Decorate Paper mache pinatas** created in the previous week, non-toxic paint, paintbrushes, water cups, protective clothing or aprons

Duration: 30-45 minutes

Description: It's time to bring your paper Mache pinatas to life with color! In this lesson, we'll celebrate the knowledge we've gained about oceans and the importance of proper recycling techniques. Using non-toxic paint and brushes, children will have the opportunity to paint their paper Mache creations, infusing them with vibrant hues and personal artistic expressions.

As they engage in this activity, encourage discussions about the significance of recycling, protecting our water sources, and keeping our oceans clean. Emphasize the positive impact of their recycling efforts on the environment and the role they play in preserving our planet's beauty. This celebration serves as a reminder of their dedication to creating a sustainable future.

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