



# Title: Layers of the Sea

Designed by: Keisha Morales

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Recommended Grade Level(s): 1st Grade

Topic(s) (Tags):

Examples of Topics from A2R WebPage: Under the Sea, Painted Paper, Oil Pastels, Mixed Media, Coral Reef, Sea Life, Environmental Awareness

**Objective:**

Write a short description of or overview of the lesson:

Example:

## Objective:

Students will explore the layers and movement of the ocean using painted paper, bright colors, and simple shapes. This project focuses on color blending, collage, and environmental awareness. Students will build a mixed media seascape in layers, beginning with the sky and water, and adding coral, seaweed, and vibrant fish. The final artwork highlights the ocean's beauty and inspires students to think about why keeping our oceans clean and colorful is important.

**Standard/Concept:**

NOTE: Not all of the following need to be addressed. These are just prompts for what your lesson could cover. You can also address any of the national standards if you would like. [Here is an easy document by Brianna Gidcrumb.](#)

Students will be able to...



- Create a...
- Use a... (tool, process, technique...)
- Explore... (medium, materials, techniques...)
- Understand... (concept, history, artist...)

## Standard/Concept

- **Anchor Standard 1:** Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work
- **Anchor Standard 2:** Organize and develop artistic ideas and work
- **Anchor Standard 3:** Refine and complete artistic work
- **Anchor Standard 6:** Convey meaning through presentation of artistic work
- **Anchor Standard 10:** Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art
- **Anchor Standard 11:** Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural, and historical context

### Materials:

List the materials you use in your lesson. If you have links to include, that is a bonus for the teachers using the lesson. Also, if there are alternative supplies, please list them as well. Paper comes free from Art to remember.

## Materials

- White and colored construction paper
- Tempera or acrylic paint
- Cardboard for scraping
- Neon oil pastels
- Oil pastels or paint markers (for fish details)
- Scissors
- Glue
- Coral and seaweed drawing reference sheets



### Break down of the lesson

Describe a brief statement for a pacing guide. This portion can be conversational. How do you do it in your classroom? Base this on a 60-minute class period.

Breakdown	
Day	Direction
1	<i>Teacher will demonstrate how to blend shades of blue and white, as well as indigo, green, and pink, using cardboard scraping or brushes. Students will create painted paper for the ocean using cool colors and another paper using shades of brown to represent sand. These papers will be set aside to dry for layering the next day.</i>
2.	<i>Teacher will explain how to divide the paper into sections and demonstrate how to use neon oil pastels to create thick, wavy lines at the top to represent the movement of wind in the sky. Students will divide their background into four parts, with the top section reserved for sky texture. They will then rip their painted ocean paper into strips (about 2-3 fingers wide) and glue them in layers on the remaining bottom sections to form the ocean.</i>
3	<i>Teacher will show how to use reference sheets to draw seaweed and model cutting small paper scraps for coral, emphasizing contrast against the blue background. Students will use brightly colored painted paper (avoiding blue) to cut 3-5 inch coral shapes and glue them onto the ocean. Using oil pastels, students will draw 2-3 seaweeds, each on a different colored paper using a different color pastel, then cut and glue them into their scene.</i>
4	<i>Teacher will guide students through the process of creating small fish from construction paper (cut to approx. 1" x 2"), adding detail with paint markers or oil pastels. Students will create 7-10 fish with varied shapes, patterns, and colors. Once complete, they will cut and glue them into their seascape to bring the underwater world to life.</i>

### Steps for the Lesson





## Steps for the Lesson

Step	Directions	Image
1	Students will create two types of painted paper—one using cool blues, whites, and indigos for the ocean, and another with browns for sand—by scraping paint with cardboard.	
2	Students will divide their background into four parts. In the top section, they'll draw thick neon pastel lines to represent wind. Then, they'll tear their blue painted paper into strips and glue them down to create ocean layers.	




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3	<p>Students will cut 3x5 inch pieces of brightly painted paper to create coral and use oil pastels to draw coral and seaweed on contrasting colors. They will cut and glue everything onto the layered ocean background.</p>	
4	<p>Students will cut small rectangles of construction paper into fish shapes, decorate them with patterns, and glue 7-10 fish into their collage to complete their ocean scene.</p>	

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