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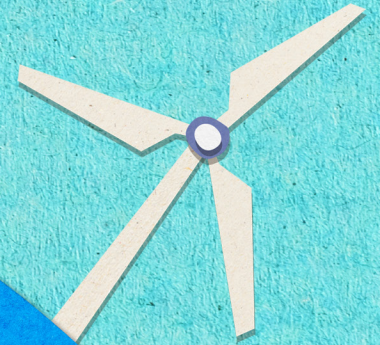


EXTRAORDINARY



PROJECT

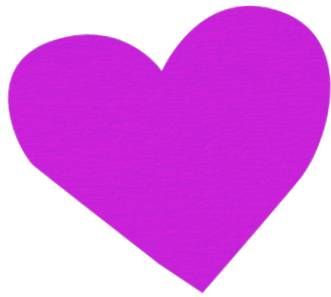
Spring 2024 Art Guide



Art is a powerful tool for solving global issues.

Throughout history, the arts have inspired action, spread ideas, stirred emotions and built community. This is why art is at the core of Students Rebuild’s art for activism, “artivism”, program and classroom lesson plans.

This year’s Challenge, **The Extraordinary Earth Project**, brings students and classrooms together to connect with nature and create art that protects our Earth.



How does it work?

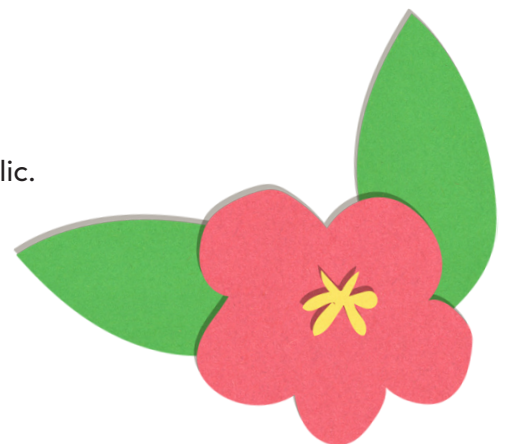
- First, students learn about our environments and ecosystems! Classrooms complete lesson plans to learn more about the extraordinary Earth; lessons may vary based on age and state curriculum, including lessons on ecosystems, environmentalism, climate conservation, the food chain, and more.
- Next, students channel their learnings in sustainability to found objects in nature, creating beautiful works of art using found objects in nature to create beautiful works of art.
- **BE CREATIVE:** Use any artistic medium - painting, digital artwork, poetry, murals and photography – the world needs YOUR art to tackle our climate crisis!

This art guide will share instructions for getting started on the Extraordinary Earth Project, how to submit your art, and a suggested art project.

But, the Challenge accepts all forms of artivism – create art that fits your classroom’s lesson plans!

Whatever you do, make it fun, and consider making it public. Our students have a message about environmental conservation; let’s share it loud and clear!

Whether you have an hour a week, or just five minutes a month, artivism can be incorporated into most lesson plans to nurture student creativity into climate action!





What are you waiting for?

Let's get started on the Extraordinary Earth Project!

Art is EVERYWHERE!

The following instructions help students think about how the climate crisis affects their communities.

During the planning phase, students should consider the questions below – and perhaps do some quick practice sketches of how they can use materials to create art, produce less waste and clean up their community.

- 1 THE ISSUE:** What environment-related issue do you want to address through your art? (i.e. litter, CO2 gas emissions, oil spills, wildlife conservation, and plastic usage.)
- 2 THE MESSAGE:** What does connecting with nature and protecting our extraordinary Earth mean to you? What actions do you hope your art will inspire your community to take?
- 3 THE ART:** What images will help you achieve this, and how will the elements and principles of art also be used to communicate the message?
For older students: Use the internet to see examples of how non-profits and other artists are using visuals (art, videos, or photography) to communicate a similar message.
- 4 THE MEDIUM:** Different outlets can include different materials—you can draw, paint, block or screen print, collage, use photography, graphic design software, or other methods. What medium do you want to use?
- 5 (OPTIONAL) THE TEXT:** What would you like to say about environmentalism, the climate crisis, and/or methods of mitigating impact? Why is eco-climate conservation important to you? Your community? Your future?
- 6** Finally...**CREATE!** Let students use their plans, sketches and available materials to execute their creative visions and share their art far and wide!

Developing a Healthy Art Process

Promoting Artistic Behaviors and Character Development

The skills and practices exercised in art-making can be applied to personal growth and character development. Here are some tips to help you coach your students in the creative process that will also transfer to social-emotional growth:

- **PROBLEM SOLVE AND EXPLORE:** Drawing or creating any kind of art requires problem-solving, experimentation, and iterations. Allow your students time and space to play with and explore materials, plan and sketch their ideas to discover what works best in their art-making.
- **COLLABORATE:** Consider having students work in pairs or small groups to brainstorm their art and messaging. Teamwork and artistic collaboration can help students generate creative ideas, facilitate informal dialogue about activism and social justice, and encourage peer-to-peer learning and motivation.
- **STRETCH AND TAKE RISKS:** Making art can be a vulnerable and sometimes frustrating experience. Create a respectful, safe space for students to take risks and stretch their abilities through positive reinforcement, and please refrain from defining a “right” or “wrong” way for students to create art. Focus on artistic behaviors (ex. problem solving, persistence) instead of visual outcomes.
- **PERSIST:** Student art might not match their vision at first, or materials and techniques might not work out as planned. Provide constructive feedback and supportive reassurance to help students persist and work through creative or artistic challenges.



Spring 2024 Art Project Challenge: Suggested Lesson Plan

Let's get started with activism! Teams can complete and upload the following art project to your team dashboard.

EXTRA CREDIT: Post your art on social media and tag your friends at @StudentsRebuild!

Spring 2024 Art Project: Community Engagement

Classrooms will create beautiful art using found materials to learn about local and global ecosystems and climate impact.	
Grades K-7	Grades 8+
<p>Nature Creations: Students are asked to go on a nature walk to pick up a piece of nature, i.e. a pinecone. Once inside, students can transform their found piece into their favorite animal. Students use their creativity to learn about animals and their local habitat, something younger students can understand and enjoy.</p> <p><i>Additional options for creative digital art submissions.</i></p>	<p>Ecosystem Triarama: In this art project, students can draw their own neighborhood, or a neighborhood around them, and depict an environment where people, animals, and nature can thrive. Perfect for older students with more advanced art skills and an artistic vision. A project that incorporates different wildlife with nature, including the relationship between humans and their environment.</p> <p><i>Additional options for creative digital art submissions.</i></p>
Digital Project - All Ages	
<p>For these submissions, we invite you to think creatively about the theme through art made on your computer. Digital projects could include graphic design, digital paint, a written essay, poetry, etc., using the following creative prompts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What do you hope your community/nature/Earth looks like in 50 years?• What do you appreciate about the Earth?• Where is the most beautiful natural area in your town?• What do you believe is the best way to preserve the environment?	

Examples of Artivism in Action!



→ Meet Monsieur Steve, an art ambassador from Toronto, Canada. Follow his classroom as they explore nature and create animals using collected materials!

Watch Monsieur Steve on [YouTube](#) and [Instagram](#)!



Share your Artivism on Social Media:

Upload your art and tag Students Rebuild to showcase your art for the world.

 @StudentsRebuild  @studentsrebuild  @studentsrebuild

Your team isn't limited to one piece of art—you can continue submitting art that makes a difference all year and explore multiple art challenges from the Fall and Spring art guides.

The Extraordinary Earth Project ends at midnight on June 11, 2024.

How to Submit Your Art!

There are two ways to submit your art to Students Rebuild:

- 1** **MAIL** us your art pieces
- 2** **DIGITALLY SUBMIT** them online



To get started, log in to your Students Rebuild portal and go to studentsrebuild.org/submit. From there, you can specify how many people are on your team and how many art pieces you plan to submit at once. Your donation amount will be calculated automatically and shown on your private dashboard, as well as on the team map and your shareable Team Page

For more information on how to submit, including details on mailing your art to Students Rebuild, please refer to the Leader Guide or the submission page of the website.

During February & April Double Months, each art piece submitted will double your team's donation for Extraordinary Earth Project partners, doubling your reach and global impact!

There's much more to explore.

Learn about the Extraordinary Earth Project at studentsrebuild.org/earth.