



Re-Discovered Animals

Pre-K through Grade 5, written to Grade 2 standards

Noah's Ark at the Skirball™ is filled with hundreds of handcrafted animals made from recycled materials and everyday items. In this lesson, students will uncover the artistry behind the animals aboard Noah's Ark and construct their own found-object animal sculptures.

Objective

This lesson prepares students to make observations and engage in the creative process.

Materials (Worksheets available on Google Slides)

- "What's It Made Of?" worksheets
- "How to Make a Re-Discovered Animal" instruction sheet
- "Artist's Statement" worksheet
- "Self-Reflection" worksheet (optional extension)
- Items for students to find:
 - Various found objects, such as containers, paper tubes, and other recyclables
 - Scissors, tape, glue, and markers may also be helpful

Class Activity

1. Lead a warm-up discussion about the following:
 - Found objects: Items found in the space around you. They can be old or new, special or commonplace. Everyday objects like cups, silverware, and toys are often used in found-object art! What interesting objects can you find around you?
 - Symbolism: The use of an object or image to represent something abstract, like an emotion or concept. In the Noah's Ark story, a rainbow stands for hope. What symbols can you think of?
2. Make observations as a class about the whimsical Noah's Ark animals featured on the "What's It Made Of?" worksheets and/or in the **Noah's Ark welcome video**. Each animal was designed by a team of artists using found objects and recycled materials.

Watch our
welcome video
to discover more
Noah's Ark
animals!

3. Ask students to choose an animal that is meaningful to them and consider the following:

- What makes your animal special or unique?
- Where does your animal live?
- How does it behave?
- What could it symbolize or stand for? For example, a dove reminds us of peace, a lion might show courage, and a monkey could symbolize curiosity.

Student Instructions

1. Make an animal out of found objects! Refer to the “How to Make a Re-Discovered Animal” instruction sheet.
2. Prepare to discuss your creative process by completing the “Artist’s Statement” worksheet.
3. Optional: Reflect on what you’ve learned about yourself as an artist using the “Self-Reflection” worksheet.

Share Out

- Create community guidelines for supportive art presentations. Discuss what it means to share your artistic process and support other artists’ presentations. Make sure to look closely and practice active listening!
- Have students present their sculptures and artist statements!
- Share student artwork with us! We’d love to showcase your classroom creations. Email photos to education@skirball.org.

Curriculum Connections

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY: SL.2.1, SL.2.2

California Arts Standards: 2.VA:Cr1.1, 2.VA:Cr2.3, 2.VA:Pr5

Connect with Us

Our educators are here to help! If you would like to talk with us about how best to facilitate this activity with your students, please email teacherprograms@skirball.org.