



Welcome to the Ocean edition of the Golden Thread Junior Gallery Newsletter. In this edition we are celebrating Earth day. Since we live on such a beautiful blue planet, covered in vast oceans we thought it only right to explore the seas. We will be discovering artworks made by both historical and contemporary artists which capture the ocean and its inhabitants. Inside you will find fun creative activities inspired by our ocean theme to try at home, discover our Work of the Month and be inspired to create a lovely seascape using recycled materials.

The Ocean & the Artist

Happy Earth Day from GTG! Since it's Earth day on 22nd April, we thought we would dedicate this month's Newsletter to our lovely home and in particular the biggest thing on the Earth, the Ocean! Did you know the ocean covers around 70% of the Earth's surface and is the home to almost 94% of the Earth's inhabitants?

To this day, less than 5% of the ocean has actually been explored by humans. Its vast size, power and unknown nature has always fascinated people. Historical artists such as Turner, Matisse and Hokusai were in awe of the sea and tried to capture its power, inhabitants and ever changing conditions in their seascapes.

Contemporary artists are still capturing our beautiful oceans and the amazing creatures that live in them. Some artists also use their art to highlight problems that we are causing in our oceans. We all know about climate change and the need to protect the environment. Artists are looking at issues such as coral bleaching, plastic pollution and over-fishing. Their art could be described as environmental art. Inside are some examples of contemporary artists exploring the seas.

We need to protect our seas! Not only do they provide us with fish to eat and lovely trips to the beach, but they also produce over 70% of the planet's oxygen which we all need to breathe!

Historical Artists



'THE FIGHTING TEMERAIRE'. JOSEPH MALLORD WILLIAM TURNER. 1838



'POLYNESIA THE SEA'. HENRI MATISSE. 1946



'THE GREAT WAVE'. KATSUSHIKA HOKUSAI. 1830-32



FISHERMEN AT SEA. JOSEPH MALLORD WILLIAM TURNER. 1796.

Did you know...

Turner painted his first oil painting, 'Fishermen at Sea', when he was 21. This seascape painting grabbed the attention of art critics and gained him a national reputation as an artist.



Contemporary Artists



Jessica Warboys

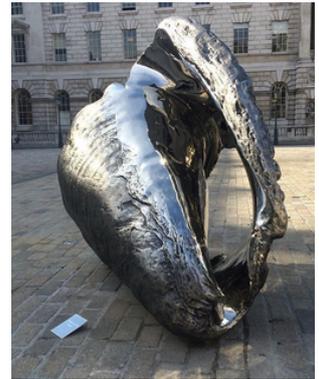
Jessica Warboys (born. 1977) is a British artist who works in film, painting, sculpture and installation. Her work is often inspired by nature and shaped by the landscape itself. Through her work she also explores ideas of memory, mythology and knowledge. Her work has been exhibited throughout the UK and internationally.

The paintings to the left were part of her solo show at Tate St. Ives, 'Sea Paintings', 2017. To create them she took large pieces of canvas to the beach, covered them in pigment and put them in the sea. The waves, wind and sand became the artist too, moving the pigment on the canvas, painting it. The exhibition was also made up of film and performances.

Marc Quinn

Marc Quinn (born. 1963) is a British artist known for his work in sculpture and painting. His work explores our relationship with nature and the earth, and what it is to be a person living here. Quinn's work has been exhibited throughout the UK and internationally in group and solo shows.

His 'Frozen Wave' sculptures (right), were exhibited outside Summerset House in 2015. The shell shaped sculptures explored our relationship with the sea and how we depend on it for needs such as food. They also explored natural shapes and cycles.



Vanessa Barragão

Vanessa Barragão is a Portuguese textile artist. She creates carpets and tapestries using recycled materials such as discarded wool, which capture ocean environments such as coral reefs and sea floors. Since childhood, she has always been fascinated by the sea, by its colours and all its creatures. As she grew older she witnessed the damage humans were doing to coral reefs and the biodiversity (important plant and animal life) we were losing from our oceans. Coral reefs are home to 25% of sea life, they also protect coastal areas from flooding by acting as a barrier to huge waves and they have also been the source of a lot of medicine we use everyday. She uses her work to highlight the beauty and importance of our ocean and coral reefs.





Work of the Month

Nieve, age 8.

Nieve took part in our live Zoom Easter workshop and made these lovely Easter characters. They look amazing and are very cute! Well done Nieve!

Don't forget, all our online workshops are always available free on the GTG website for you to do at home on our new Art & Learning page!

Weekend Task



Make Your Own Soapy Sea Foam

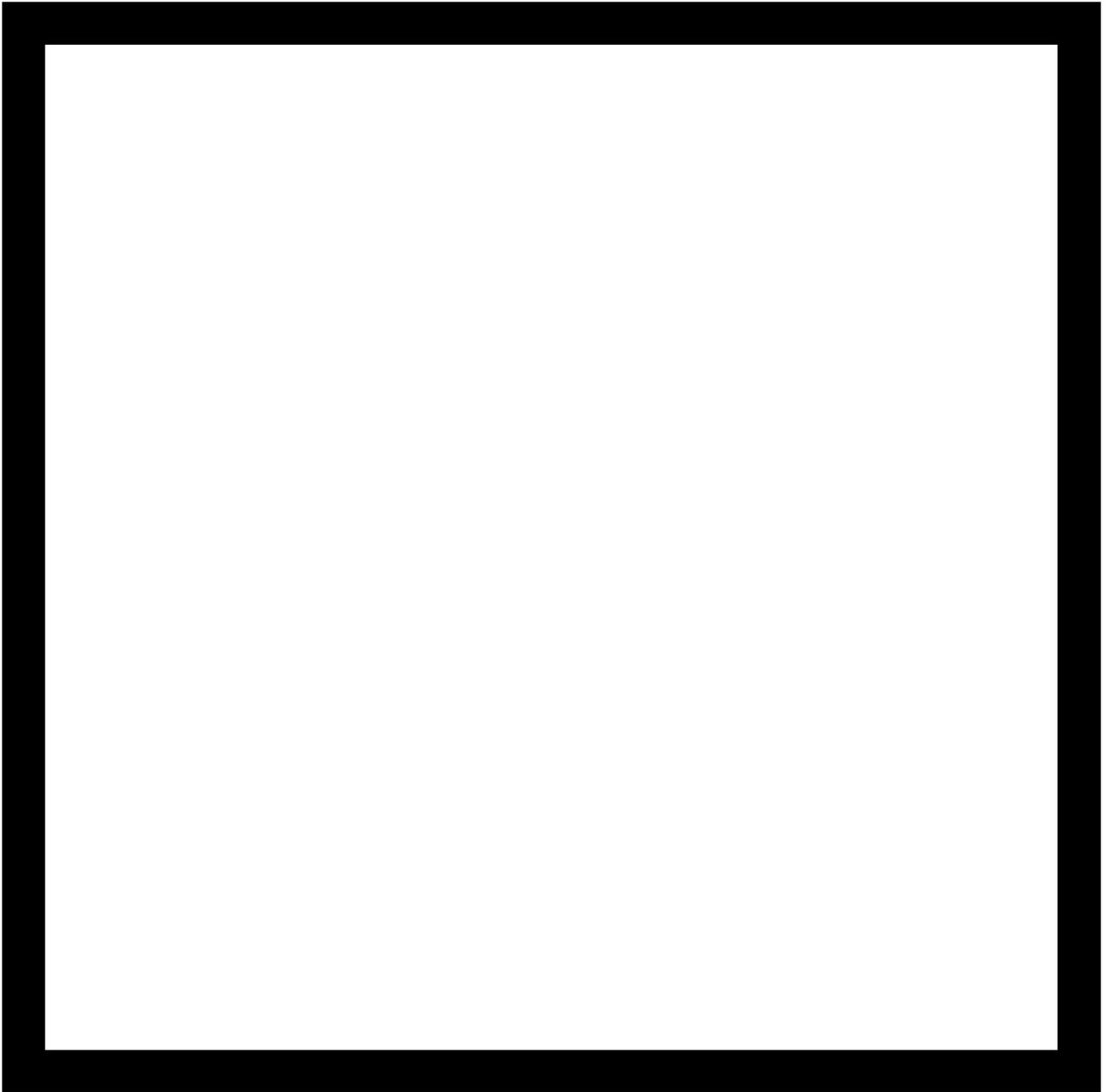
What you will need:

- Washing up liquid
- Water
- Large bowl
- Cornflour
- Blue or green poster paint or alternative water based paint
- Sea creates, shells or boats to play with in the sea foam

Instructions:

1. Place 2 tablespoons of washing up liquid and 2 tablespoons of water in a large bowl.
2. Add 1 tablespoon of cornflour and a squirt of paint.
3. Mix together using an electric whisk until the mixture becomes foam.

Can you create a colourful seascape in the box below. We want you to reuse items that would otherwise go to waste or accidentally end up in our oceans, such as milk carton lids, plastic bags, eggboxes, cable ties, bubblewrap, ear buds, cans and any other materials you may have in the recycling bin. Look on the internet for some inspiration. It can be of the sea surface, the seafloor or of any sea creature!



Share your work with us!

We've missed having you in the gallery and your amazing art hanging in our Junior Gallery! We would love to see what you have been working on at home. You can send your artwork to us via post, or simply send us a picture of your masterpiece via email or social media. Please make sure you have the permission of your parent or guardian beforehand.

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