

MISSION CONSERVATION ACTIVITY GUIDE

March 2022 – Freshwater H2O

Indoor Activity: Water Color Painting

A great way to use water indoors is to get creative with it! Watercolor painting happens when the color pigments are suspended in a water-based solution. This is a great way to experience water without getting wet or making too much of a mess. For this indoor activity, you will paint a picture of your favorite fish or aquatic animal!

If you happen to be between the ages of 5 and 18, you can submit your painting/illustration to Wildlife Forever's Fish Art Contest! Contestants have until March 31st, 2022 to submit their illustration.

Benefits

- Calming and entertaining
- Fun for all ages
- Artist expression of wildlife
- Prizes for contest winners!

Supplies

- Tubes of various paint colors
- Natural hair paintbrushes
- Watercolor Paper or a Canvas
- A Palette
- A Container of Water



What to do

- Gather all your supplies and get ready to paint! Wear clothing you do not mind getting paint on.
- Put your various colors into the palette.
- Dip your paintbrushes into the colors and draw your fish or aquatic animal.
- After you are done painting, be sure to put your paintbrushes in water and wash them thoroughly.
- Visit Wildlife Forever's website at <https://www.wildlifeforever.org/home/fish-art/> to submit your art!

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Outdoor Activity: Explore Your Local Stream!

One of the best ways to get outdoors and interact with freshwater is to explore your local stream! This month we are partnering with the Ocala National Forest in Florida. See if a National Forest near you offers canoe trips down their waterways. If you cannot canoe, there are other ways to explore your local stream like snorkeling, wading, cleanup, and even swimming.

While visiting, make sure to stay safe, be respectful of wildlife, and leave no trash behind. Following these rules will make sure the stream stays beautiful and enjoyable for other guests. Make sure to take plenty of pictures and videos of your trip!

Plan your visit to the Ocala National Forest by visiting their website:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/florida/recarea/?recid=83528>



Additional Supplies (Optional)

- Canoe (rent or own)
- At least one paddle per person
- Sunscreen
- Snacks
- Lifejacket
- Dry clothes
- Water shoes
- Bathroom Essentials
- First Aid Kit
- Drinking water
- Signaling device
- Dry Bag
- Bailing bucket or sponge



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