

Art is Everywhere – Here, There and in Trash

A Guide for Teachers and Parents



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THEMES

Steam

SUB-THEMES

Creativity and imagination

Found-object art

Visual arts appreciation

Story Discussion Guide

After reading this story, children will be able to:

- Explore the idea that art can be made from everyday objects, even trash.
- Understand the concept of upcycling.
- Be encouraged to see the world around them with curiosity.
- Learn that creativity doesn't require fancy materials—just imagination!

Lesson plan

This story is a vibrant starting point for discussions on creativity and the environment. It pairs perfectly with art activities using found objects.

Learning Outcome

Before Reading:

- What do you usually throw away at home?
- Can you think of anything you've made from used items?

During Reading :

- What funny or unexpected things are used as art in the pictures?
- What do the rhymes make you feel or imagine?

After Reading–

- Why do you think the artist used trash to make art?
- How does this story make you look at trash differently?
- What can you create from the trash in your classroom or home?

Activities:

- Trash to Treasure Art: Bring clean household waste items and create your own sculptures, collage, or installations.
- Rhyme Your Rubbish: Write short rhyming poems or verses inspired by items from your recycling bin.
- Gallery Walk: Display everyone's creations and have a mock 'Trash Art Exhibition' in class/school.
- Creative Eyes: Go on a classroom scavenger hunt to find overlooked objects that could become part of an artwork.

Expected Outcomes

Children will learn to truly 'see'—not just using their logical left brain but their creative right brain. They will begin to notice beauty in even the most unexpected places, like trash. This shift in perception will help them appreciate and value all of creation, encouraging a sense of wonder, resourcefulness, and respect for their surroundings.

Applicable SDGs

- ·SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production ·
- SDG 13: Climate Action

SDG Explanation

- SDG 12: Promotes reuse and creative ways to reduce waste
- SDG 13: Encourages children to reimagine trash and reduce environmental impact.

ABOUT ZAMASAMA

Zamasama is a nonprofit platform that brings together stories from around the world to help children discover that beneath our differences—of culture, language, or belief—we share the same hopes, joys, and dreams. Today's children are tomorrow's citizens, and the responsibility of building a more peaceful, tolerant, and empathetic world lies with them. That's why it's vital to instill these values early—through stories that help them rise above the biases they inherit, and see diversity as a strength that unites us all.