



Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation Education Program – Lesson Plans

Grade Level: 3-5

Lesson Topic: Creating Shell Jewelry

Length: One class period

RI Standard of Learning: Social Studies (Civic Responsibility), **Art** (Visual).

Learning Objective: Students will learn that broken things still have value and can be reused rather than discarded. Students will also gain dexterity and increase their tactile skills by threading the shells onto string.

Materials: Sandwich bags, Broken shells collected from Rose Island, Elastic string or monofilament fishing line

Vocabulary: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, seashell, periwinkle

Procedure:

On Rose Island: Students should comb the beach looking for small shells that have holes in them. Encourage students to look for a variety. Each student should have a handful of shells or small items that have holes in them to take home. (Rule of thumb: don't take anything dirty or smelly)

In the Classroom:

- Introduction: The teacher prepares students for the activity by asking them questions about what they usually do with things that are broken. Ask: How is what they are going to be doing different? Have they ever recycled before? Do they know why recycling is important?
- Development: Have all the students put their shells on their desks. The teacher will distribute a length of string to each student depending on what they would like to make. Students will create their own shell jewelry, either for themselves or as a gift, by threading the shells onto the elastic string and then tying the ends together.
- Closure: Teacher helps students to understand their responsibility to recycle. Ask students if they think it was worth it to recycle these shells. Would they find other uses for broken items around their homes? Ask them if they think it is true that broken things are still useful.

Evaluation: The teacher should observe the students as they think about reusing objects. As the teacher encourages participation, listen to see if all students understand that recycling and reusing are important. Make sure both boys and girls understand the activity. If the boys in the group don't want to make necklaces for themselves, suggest that everyone make their necklace as a present for someone. Encourage the kids to be creative when making their reuse plans for their homes.

References:

<http://www.bostonkids.org/teachers/TC/html/c-shell.htm> - the Boston Children's Museum exhibit on shell jewelry.