

When waste becomes materials

Through this activity, students will have the opportunity to transform waste into useful materials for artistic creations, showing them that it is possible to give a second life to waste through an artistic process. This approach aims to raise students' awareness of environmental issues, by instilling eco-responsible values.

A few words about the activity



It was produced by French and Greek teachers as part of the Erasmus+ ENIEDE project co-financed by the European Union in their Village-Monde. It is part of an exchange process around the theme of "Responsible consumption and production", Sustainable Development Goal No. 12 of the United Nations.

Make way for creation!



GOALS

- Identify some characteristics of a symbol that is part of a geographical or cultural area (partner country or region)
- Implement a cooperative artistic project
- Choose, organize and mobilize materials according to the effects they produce.
- Raise awareness of the issues surrounding the materials used (reuse, materials transformed by physics or chemistry, degradable or not)



DURATION

- Around 2 hours (can be split into several sessions)



MATERIAL

- Images of chosen symbols representing the region or country where one lives.
- Waste carefully selected according to its shape, color or appearance depending on the expected result.

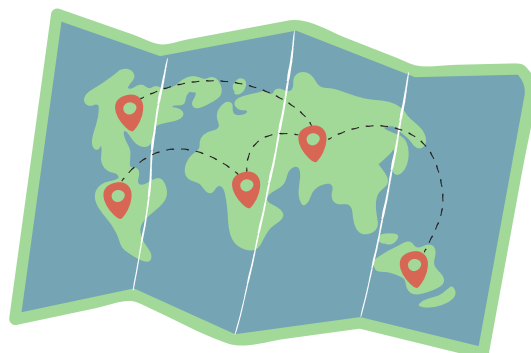
The waste will come from the house or collected during a cleaning operation linked for example to the "Let's Clean Up Nature" operation carried out in France in September.

Session 1

The symbols of his country, his region (45 minutes)

- 1. Discovering our symbols:**
The teacher asks the students if they know the symbols that represent their country (flag, national anthem, etc.) or the region where they live (local flag, etc.)

Group discussion and sharing of knowledge. Those who do not know the symbols search the Internet to find them.



- 2. The origins of our emblems:**
The teacher presents a lesson on the origins of these representations (Basque cross in the Basque country, emblem of Greece, etc.)



- 3. Write to share our symbols:**
Students, in groups, write an explanatory text on the symbols of their country or region. This text is intended to be sent to the Pélicopains (foreign correspondents).

Session 2

Discover the symbols of a chosen country (15 min)



- 1. Discovery of the symbols of the chosen country:**
Students should research the national or regional symbols of the selected country. They can use a variety of sources, such as books, online articles, educational videos,...

After collecting and analyzing the information, each student will present their findings to the class and ask questions about the differences and similarities between the symbols of the two cultures.

- 2. Create with recycled materials:**
Students reproduce a chosen symbol in large format to make a work of art.



Only recycled materials can be used (plastic bottles, cardboard, paper, etc.)

Session 3

Create a work of art using waste

"THE BEST WASTE IS THE ONE WE DON'T PRODUCE!"

- 1. Harvest to create:**
Students collect recyclable materials from around the school or brought from home, useful for creating the work.

The waste is sorted according to its shape, color, appearance or material depending on the artistic project.



- 2. Art and recycling, creating our symbol:**
Students work in groups to assemble the collected materials and create the work. They use cutting, collage, and assembly techniques.

To go further:

- Highlight the students' work and organize an exhibition that explains the cultural and civic approach of the project.

Address the selective sorting dimension by working on the different types of materials (plastic, paper, metal, glass): their characteristics, the possibility of recycling them and their recovery.

Raise awareness among students about eco-friendly actions to reduce waste and adopt a zero waste approach. Presentation by a representative of a waste sorting and collection organization. Discussion on the importance of recycling, the challenges encountered, and innovations in the field.