ART LAB AT HOME!

FROZEN SCULPTURES

Artist Carolina Caycedo uses found objects to make artwork about rivers and the relationships that humans have with water. She thinks about the story of every object and considers questions like, where does water come from? How are water and the environment cared for and how are they taken advantage of? Experiment with using water and found objects from around your neighborhood to make your own frozen sculpture. As you create, look up where your tap water is sourced, find out what bodies of water you live near, and think about how you use water in and around your home everyday.

MATERIALS

- Assorted containers
- Found objects from nature
- Tap water
- Space in a freezer
- Optional: Food coloring, Baking sheet or shallow bin, Washable paint + brushes, Sketching supplies

STEPS

1. Go for a walk and collect objects that you find from nature. Talk about why you chose them. Notice their textures and colors. Where did they come from? Why are they important?

2. Distribute your found objects among your containers. What stories do these arrangements tell about where you live?

3. Fill your containers with water leaving space at the top for the water to expand as it freezes. Add a drop of food coloring (optional). Think about where you got your water. Would you consider it part of your community? Why or why not?

4. Place your containers in the freezer until the water freezes to solid ice. What conditions are required to turn water into ice? How long did this take? Where can you find ice in nature?

5. Remove your sculptures from the containers. Wiggle them free by running the container under warm water or wrapping it in a warm towel. Then flip it over and tap on the bottom. To contain the ice as it melts, place them on a rimmed baking sheet, a shallow bin, or on the ground outside.

6. Build, play, create! Notice how your found objects have changed. Stack your frozen sculptures on top of each other. Top your ice with paint. Apply with paint brushes, kitchen spoons, or your hands. Watch the colors move and mix as the ice melts.

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