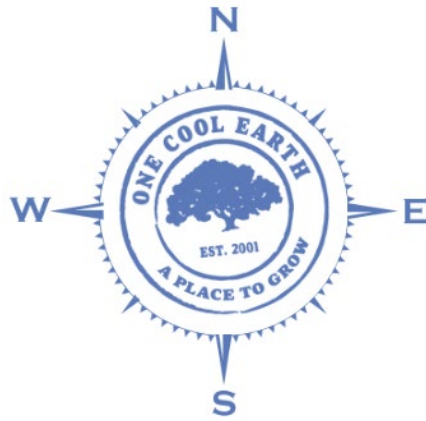


Chumash Swordfish



Society

Lesson Overview:

In this session, students will learn about the Chumash History of the Swordfish and how it is connected to the [yak tit'yu tit'yu yak ti'hini](#) tribe. Students will use their learnings to create an upcycled art piece featuring the swordfish.

Materials:

- Repurposed, recycled and/or disposable materials such as: plastic water bottles, toilet paper rolls, egg cartons, chip bags (cleaned and dried), plastic bags, etc. OR Marine debris collected from previous cleanups
- Natural materials (sticks, leaves, flowers) as needed
- Glue
- Cardboard or cardstock to use as the base of the artwork
- Paint
- Paintbrushes
- [Pictures of swordfish](#)
- [Chumash History of the Swordfish](#)

Prep:

Familiarize yourself with the [Chumash History of the Swordfish](#) to be ready to share with students. Print out at least one copy for yourself and consider printing one copy per student so it's easy for them to follow along.

Gather any found materials ahead of time.

Listen to the [audioclips](#) and practice saying the words in the Swordfish History

Activity Procedure:

Engage:

What do you already know about the Chumash people? What did you learn in school?

Explain:

Today I am going to share with you the [Chumash history of the swordfish](#) and we'll learn a bit more about Chumash culture.

Pass out the printed version if needed and read aloud to the students.

How is using things that would be thrown away, or that were found during cleanups, helping our environment? It keeps those items from escaping into the environment and becoming marine debris. So by creating art out of those materials, you are also helping the Ocean People.

Action: Creating art inspired by the swordfish

1. Provide students with various repurposed materials to use in their art piece
2. Encourage students to think about the swordfish and how they might portray it in their own art piece. Show students what a swordfish looks like or show examples of swordfish art
3. Let students be creative! This is a chance for them to connect to the story



Reflection:

What did you learn about the Chumash story of the swordfish? What are you going to do with this knowledge?

What are other ways you can repurpose materials or create less waste?

Explore more crafts and activities using repurposed materials and more with: [Activities from the NOAA Marine Debris Program.](#)

Dive into a variety of crafts, experiments, and other activities with the NOAA: [Ocean Service "For Kids" page.](#)

Sources:

[YTT Northern Chumash Tribe](#)

Swordfish History shared by Kelsey Shaffer, YTT Educator

More information around marine debris can be found here: [NOAA Marine Debris resources for Educators](#)

This lesson was prepared by One Cool Earth under the Marine Debris Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), U.S. Department of Commerce. The statements, findings, conclusions, and recommendations are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of NOAA or the U.S. Department of Commerce.