Top of the Ocean Mat Sculpture
Set Up Directions

1. Use blue, green, and turquoise marine debris from a previous clean up. You will need rope and netting. If you are located inland, yarn and strips of cloth can be used in lieu of rope, but you will still need some sort of netting. Contact CACS to request these materials if you did not pick up any during your clean up.

2. Place blue, green, and turquoise plastic bottles with the materials. As an example for the students, cut one in a spiral to form a long strip.

3. Hang the Top of the Ocean Sculpture example from the ceiling or station table.

4. Set wire cutters, scissors, tubs, wire, and plastic debris on the table.

5. Post the following Artistic Criteria, if applicable to your class:

ARTISTIC CRITERIA TO POST:


2. Create various lines that show movement and flowing, like water.

3. Use various analogous colors in blue to green hues.

4. Filling in negative spaces of the netting with woven and knotted rope and plastic bottle strips.

5. Use good craftsmanship by tying knots, twisting wire, and securing the edges.

6. Work collaboratively to have the final piece show unity and balance of color, texture, shape, and space.
Top of the Ocean Mat Sculpture
Student Instructions

1. Lay the netting out over a table and spread out around it as a group.

2. Separate thick rope into thinner strands. Put the rope in bins around the table so that everyone can reach. If any rope crumbles, throw it away in the trashcan. Rope that does this has photodegraded -- as plastic is exposed to sunlight, links between polymers in the plastic change and it becomes brittle, breaking into smaller and smaller pieces.

3. Cut bottles in a spiral from bottom to top, creating strips approximately ½ wide. Add these to the bins of materials you can use.

4. Tie one end of the rope to the net. If you are weaving a water bottle spiral, you can poke a hole in one end and tie it to the net with wire or string.

5. Weave the rope and plastic strips over and under the netting. Be sure to enter an adjacent square.

6. When you are finished, tie the rope onto the netting so it will stay in place. Poke a hole it the end of the spiral and tie it on with wire or string.

7. Work cooperatively with your group to create the top of the ocean mat.

8. Fill in the area as much as possible until it appears fairly solid and water like.