

Pilchuck Glass School
The Art of Dale Chihuly
An Exploration through Recycle Art



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Recycle Art using water bottles, tomato cage, led lights

- ★ This month we will focus on the artist Dale Chihuly, known for his revolutionary approach to glass blowing and team technique, Chihuly has changed the way the art world views glass as art and sculpture.
- ★ Our recycled sculpture will mimic some of the glass forms that Chihuly employs in his chandelier installations.
- ★ We will explore color families as well as look at an overview of the Pilchuck Glass School's methods of glass blowing.
- ★ This lesson will incorporate the video from CBS Early Show's segment with Erica Hill.
 - The video is a short 4 minute overview of Dale's life, art, and glass blowing techniques.
 - <https://vimeo.com/19463157>

Let's get ready to create a chandelier!

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Supplies Needed:

1. Color Wheel guides
2. Empty water bottles - you will need one for each student
3. Sharpie markers
4. Scissors
5. Hole Punch
6. Zip Ties
7. Tomato cage for your grade level
 - a. Each tomato cage will be pre-strung with lights.
The lights will be labeled with the grade level on the battery pack.
8. Access to a computer with projection unit to show the short film and color wheel illustration.

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Instructions:

1. Show students the short film about Pilchuck and Dale Chihuly.
<https://vimeo.com/19463157>
2. Introduce the color wheel to the students briefly.
 - a. Show them the primary colors of red, yellow, and blue.
 - b. Then introduce the secondary colors of orange, purple, and green.
 - c. Show them that you can make color harmonies using either colors that are opposite each other on the color wheel (complementary colors), or using the three colors that are next to each other on the color wheel creating an analogous color palate.
3. Hand out the water bottles and Sharpie markers to students. If the labels have not been removed from the bottles, have students do so.
4. Students should color the bottle from the top of the neck down to the bottom of the bottle using a color combination they enjoy. The bottom of the bottle will be discarded, so they should not take time coloring that area.
5. Once the bottle is completely colored, cut the bottom most round off of the bottle and recycle. Next begin cutting the bottle in a spiral strip around 1.5-2 inches in width until you reach the neck of the bottle.
 - a. In Kindergarten, First, and Second grades, adults will do the cutting of the bottles into spirals. In Third grade, gauge student ability, and in Fourth and Fifth grade students should be able to complete the cutting step.
6. Punch a hole in one end of the bottle spiral, about one inch into the plastic.
7. Group three bottles together, and attach them onto the top of the frame. Singles and doubles of a class that are not able to be grouped into three should be hung as accent from the bottom ring of the cage.
 - a. Clip away extra tails from the zip ties to keep the sculpture tidy.

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Tips and Hints:

1. Don't be afraid to have one facilitator complete the project step by step with the students using the teacher's overhead projector. The kids really enjoy having an adult work at the same time as them. Also, don't be self conscious of your art, this is all about enjoying and sharing art, not perfect technique.
2. For younger classes, make sure that adults are cutting the bottles.
3. Adults should always be cutting the zip ties.
4. Group three bottles together and keep the bundles of bottles tight together on the tomato cage to ensure full coverage for a cascading effect.

The Color Wheel

