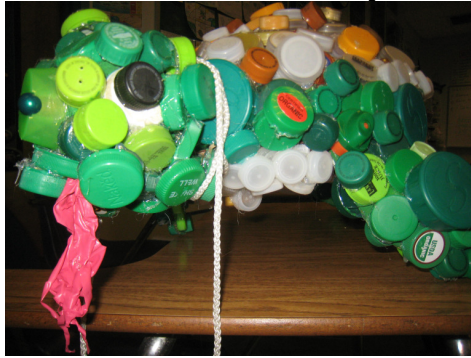


Bottle Cap Marine Debris Artwork by Team Marine



Background: Today plastic is a huge problem facing the ocean. Due to careless human behavior our ocean is becoming an underwater landfill. 60-80% of marine debris overall and up to 90% of floating debris is plastic. Bottle caps are a huge contributor to marine debris. Bottle caps are especially harmful to sea birds such as the Laysan Albatross. These birds often mistake bottle caps for food and eat them. They cannot digest the bottle caps and eventually their stomach gets so full of plastic they die of starvation thinking they are full. Plastic is also incredibly harmful to other sea creatures such as seals, dolphins, sea turtles, and fish. When plastic enters the ocean it does not biodegrade, it just breaks down into smaller pieces but it never goes away.

We need to stop using bottle caps. Since there are so many bottle caps on the beach already something we can do to raise awareness about all the plastic in the ocean is to make art using the bottle caps.

Materials:

Bottle caps collected from the street/beach
Used cardboard/pizza boxes
Used Styrofoam
Eco-friendly paint
Paint brushes
Markers
Exacto knife/box cutter (adults only)
Hot glue guns
Hot glue sticks

Steps:

1. Choose the animal you want to make
2. Design your animal
3. Using the cardboard and pizza boxes construct the skeleton of your animal.
4. Use the styrofoam to fill in the gaps and give your animal more shape.
5. Paint your animal
6. Glue the bottle caps onto your animal.

Congratulations!!!