



EMBRACING PROCESS ART

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AGENDA

Early Learning Coalition
Indian River • Martin • Okeechobee

SCAN HERE

SIGN IN SESSION #1



The Wonder Years
Conference

Why Process Art?

Honoring the Child

Setting Up for
Process Art

Let's Get Inspired!

Break

Invitation to Create!



WHY PROCESS ART?

Children are born with a sense of
WONDER

It is our job as Early Childhood Educators to
protect and cultivate
this natural born curiosity.



Process art is open-ended

It allows children to use higher order thinking skills

It engages children in the experience, not the end product

It's a journey that does not have a right or wrong way

Product Art

vs.

Process Art



- Children have instructions to follow
- Teacher created a sample to copy
- There's a right and wrong way to proceed
- There's a finished product in mind
- The children's finished art all looks the same
- Children might experience frustration
- Teacher might "fix mistakes"



- There are no step-by-step instructions
- There is no sample for children to follow
- There is no right or wrong way to explore and create
- The art is focused on experimentation and exploration
- The art is unique and original
- The experience is relaxing and calming
- The art is entirely the children's own

Things children may say during Product Art:

“Mine doesn’t look
right.”

“Can I be done now?”

“I can’t do it!”

Things children may say during Process Art:

“Can I have more time?”

“I want to make
another one!”

“I did it!”





Honoring the Child and Regard for Child Perspective

Toddler: The teacher scoring at the high end of RCP allows children to take the lead on what to do or make

Preschool: The teacher may set up an art area without providing instructions for specific projects. Instead, the students are allowed to use the materials to do a project of their choosing.

QUESTIONS TO HONOR THE CHILD AND DEEPEN THINKING

- What would you like to make today?
- How will you do that?
- What materials do you need?
- Tell me about what you're making.
- How did you make that?
- What else would you like to add?



Setting Up for Process Art

Display materials in ways that *invite* and *inspire*

Set out real life examples, books, or pictures

Offer a variety of painting tools

Provide *loose parts*





ALTERNATIVE PAINTING TOOLS

LOOSE PARTS

Natural Materials

- Rocks
- Seashells
- Pinecones, Leaves, Flowers
- Wooden Materials

Recycled Items

- Bottle Caps
- Thread Spools
- CDs/CD cases
- Keys

Open Ended

- Pom Poms
- Vase Filler
- Feathers
- Pipe Cleaners

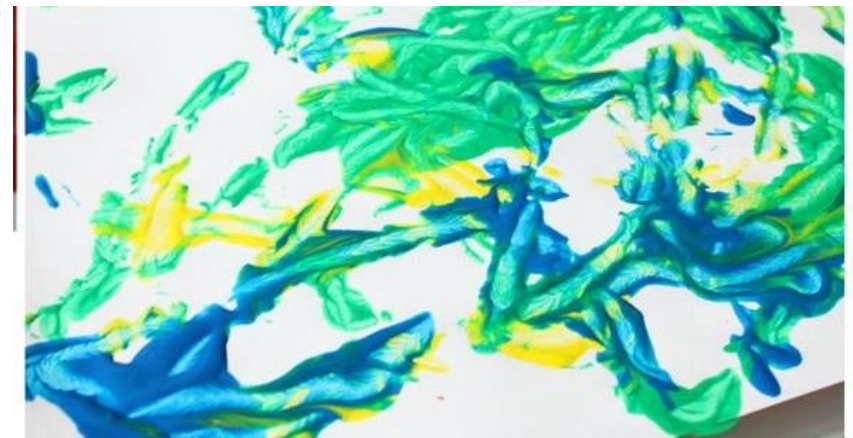
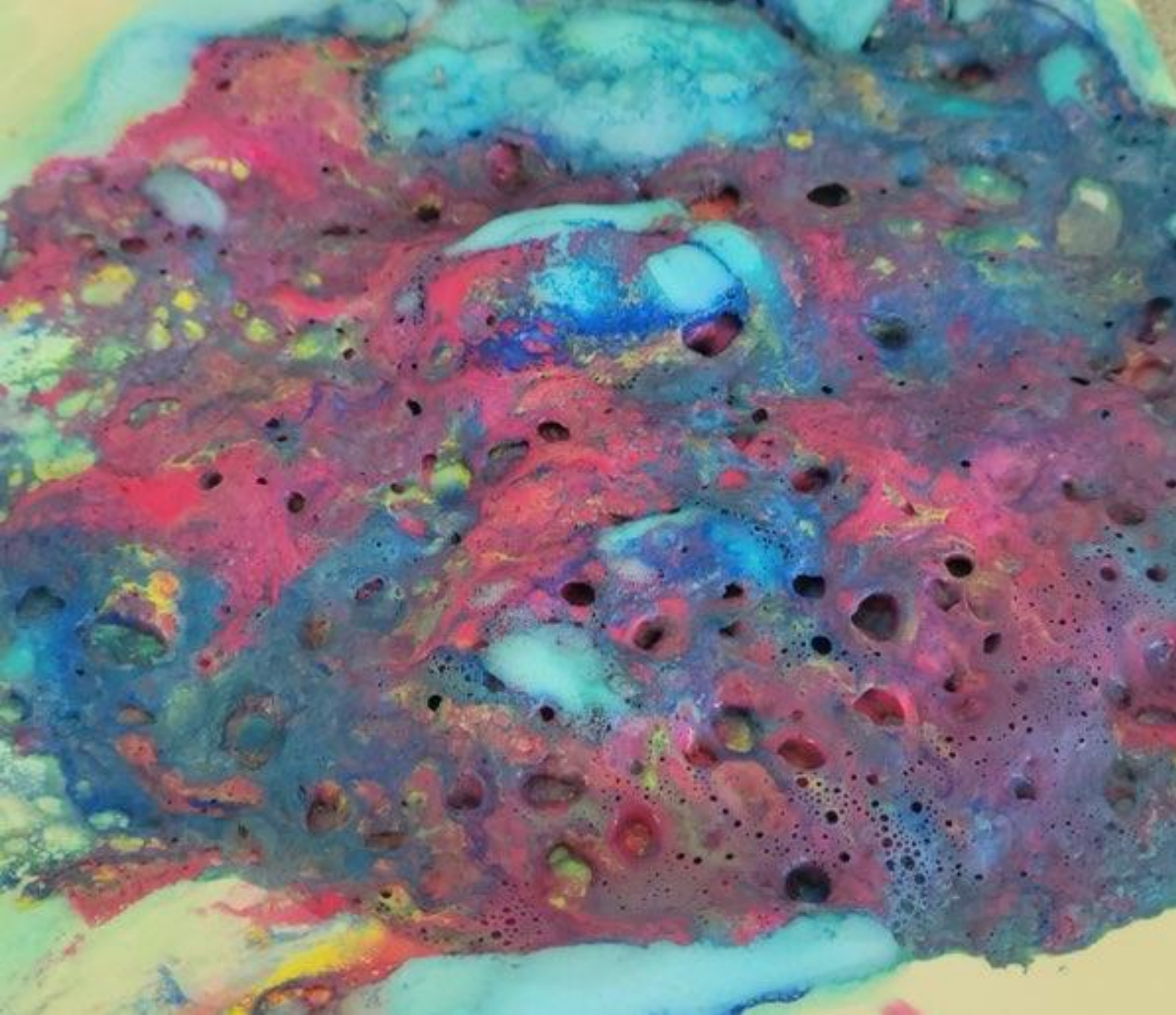


LET'S GET
INSPIRED!

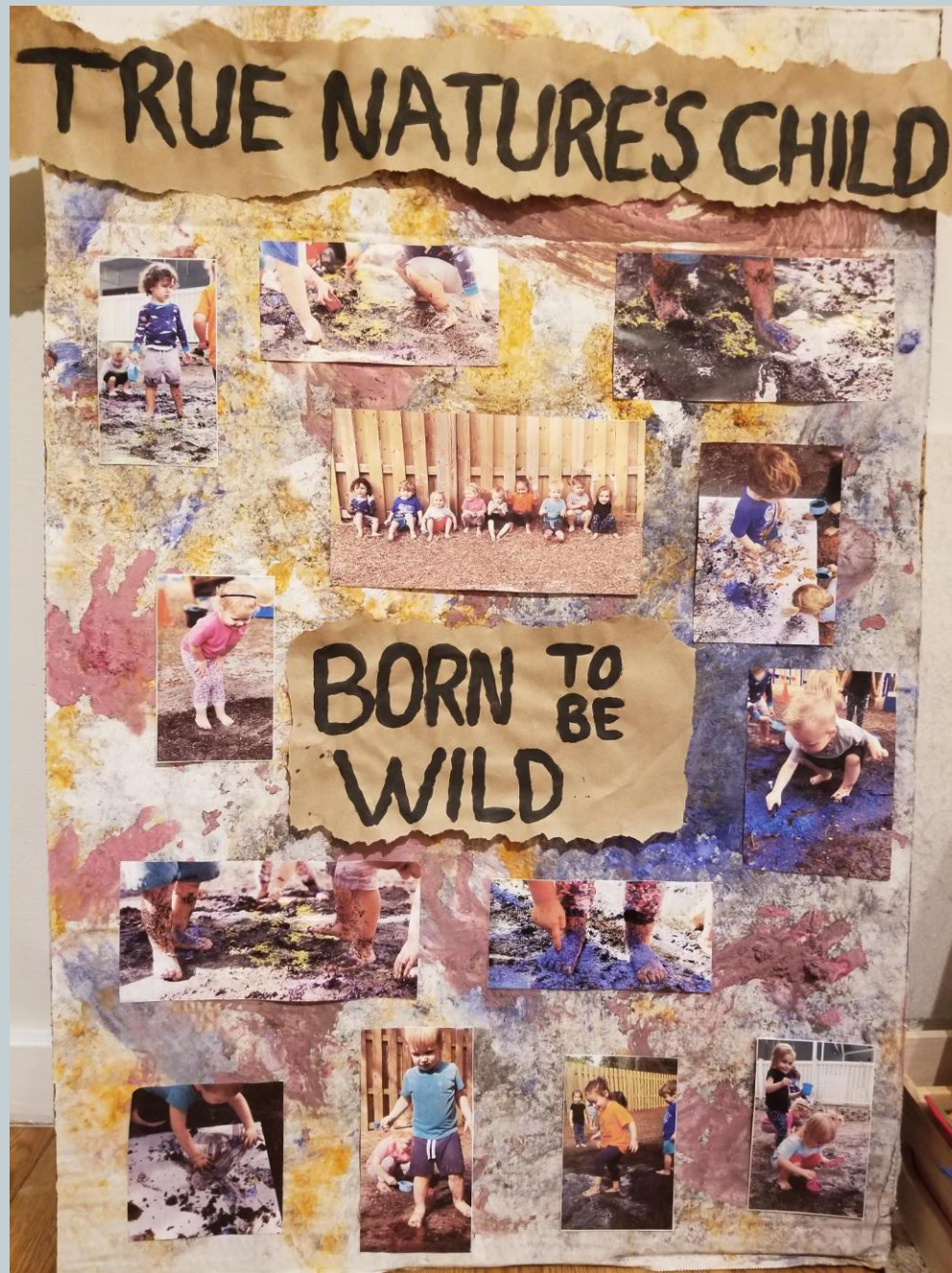


A photograph of three young children, likely toddlers, standing outdoors in a garden-like setting. They are all wearing large, handmade paper butterfly wings. The child on the left has brown curly hair and is wearing a bright green shirt; their wings are white with purple and blue paint splatters. The child in the middle has blonde curly hair and is wearing a light blue dress; their wings are white with purple, pink, and yellow paint splatters. The child on the right has blonde hair in a ponytail and is wearing a purple shirt and patterned leggings; their wings are white with blue and purple paint splatters. They are standing in front of a white lattice fence with potted plants. A semi-transparent white banner with the text "PROCESS ART WITH TODDLERS" is overlaid across the center of the image.

PROCESS ART WITH TODDLERS









Clay “Sculptures”

Clay is the perfect material for strengthening those little hands!

- Explore texture with objects like seashells and pinecones by making imprints in the clay.
- Create a unique sculpture by sticking different materials into the clay and letting it dry.
- Add another step by painting the sculpture after it dries!





Chalk Paint

Materials:

- Mortar and Pestle
- Scraps of Chalk
- Canvas (Styrofoam, Cardboard, Cardstock)



Instructions:

- Provide small pieces of chalk and model how to crush them with the mortar and pestle
- Once chalk is crushed to a powder, add water to desired consistency
- Let the painting magic begin!





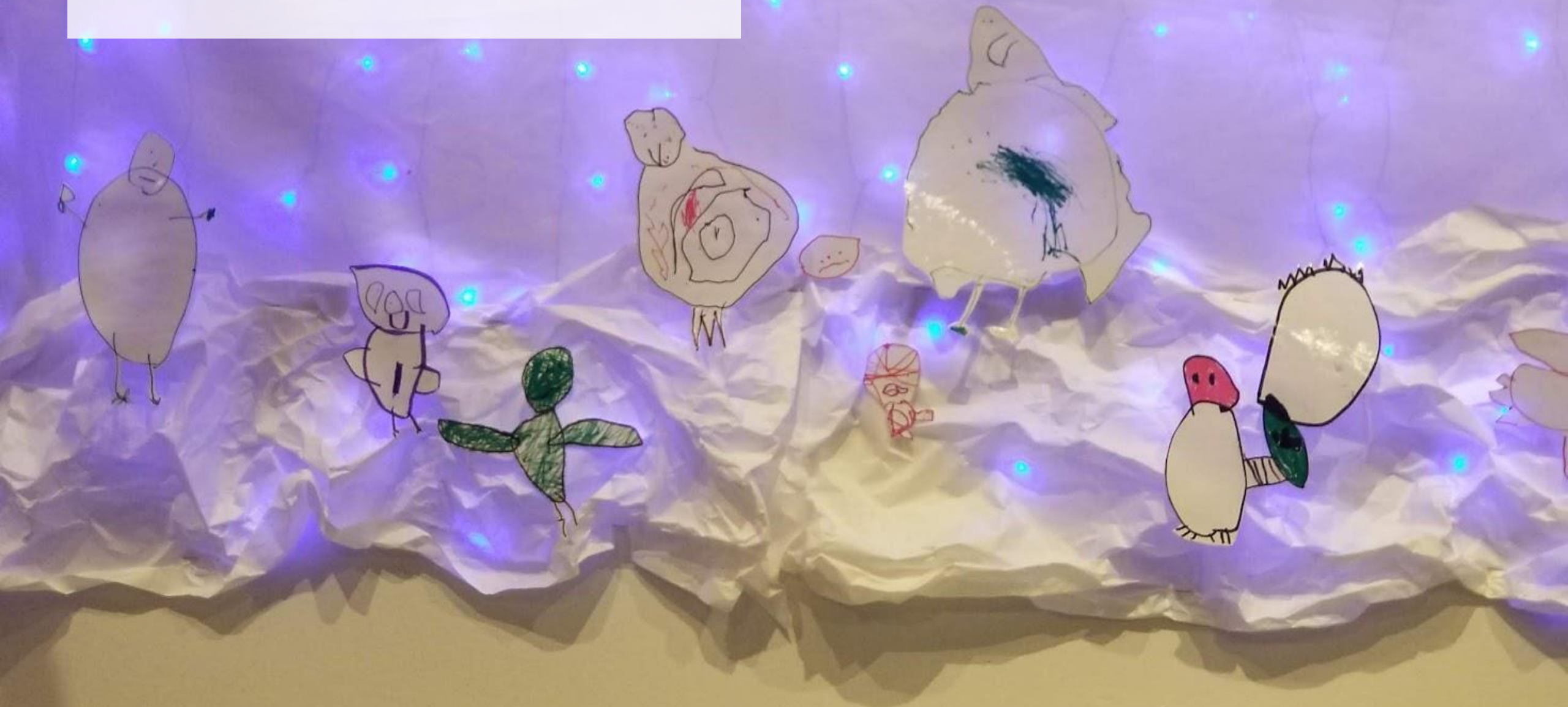
HOLIDAY ART



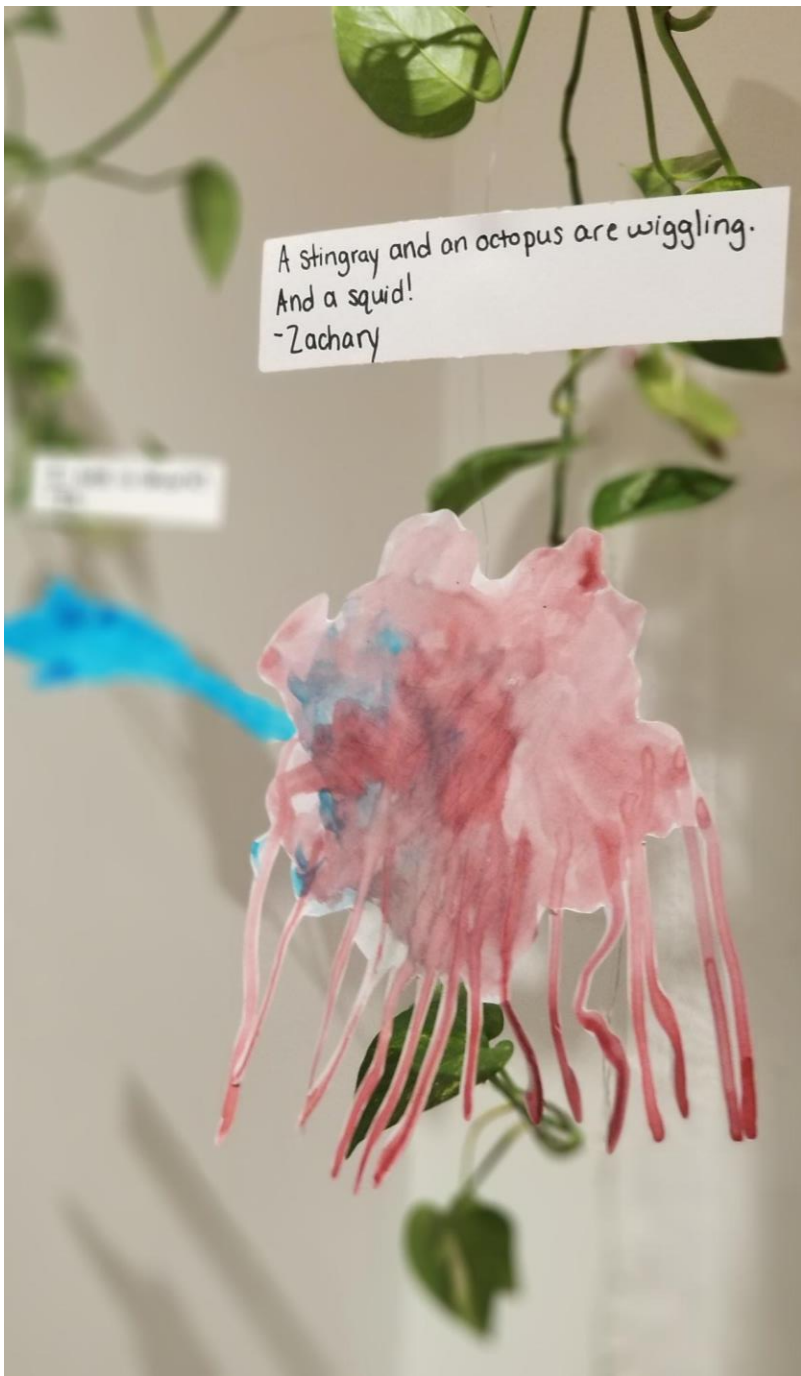
Storytelling through Art



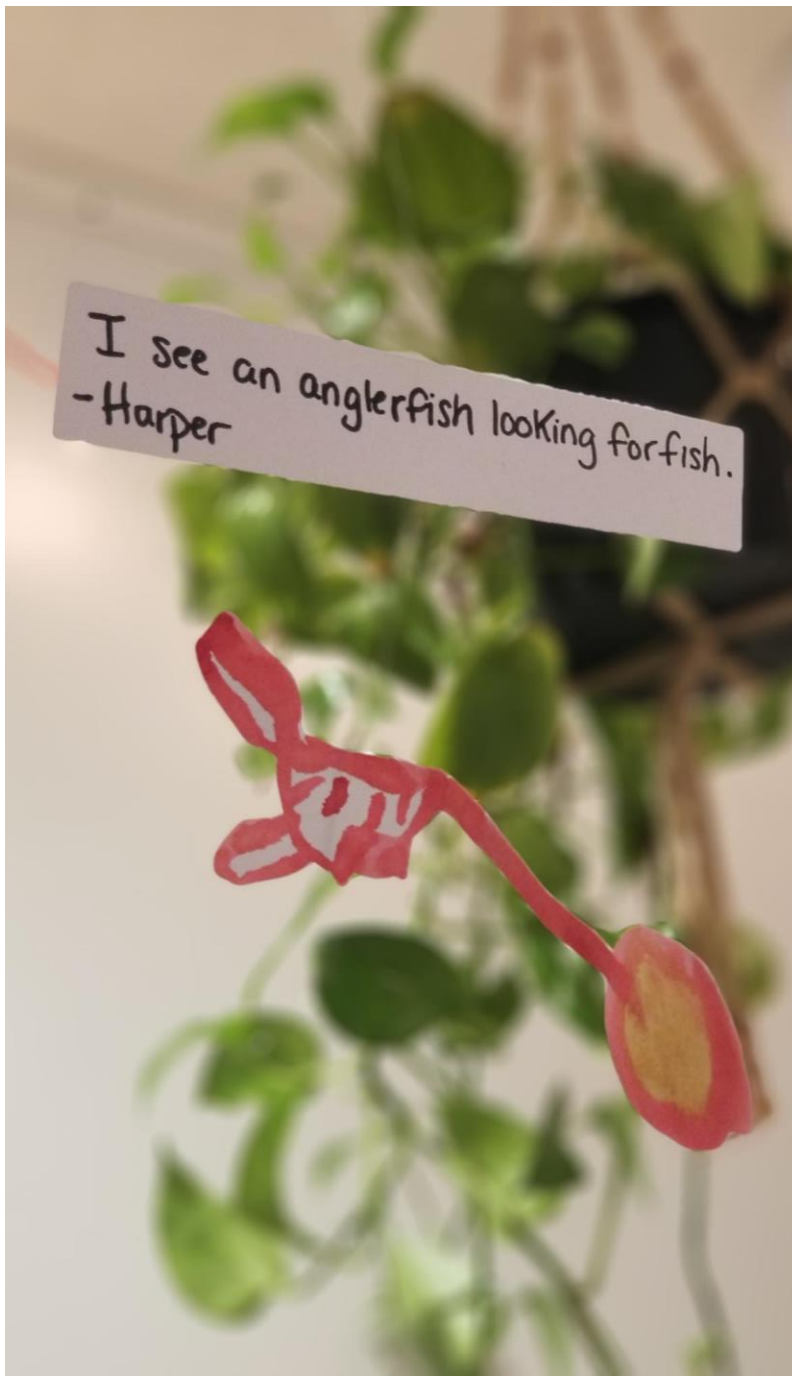
DISPLAYING ART



A stingray and an octopus are wiggling.
And a squid!
-Zachary



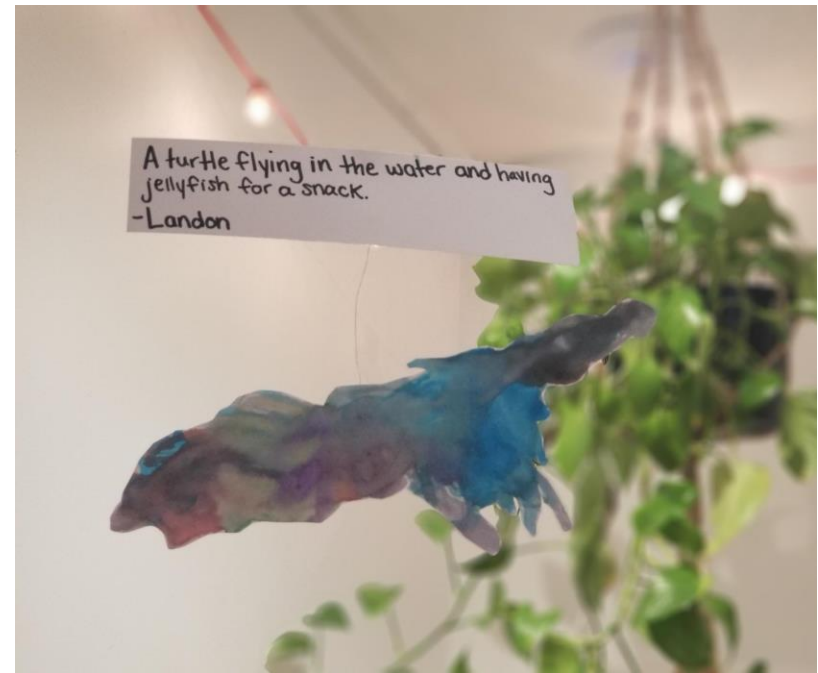
I see an anglerfish looking for fish.
-Harper



I see a shark!
-Eli



A turtle flying in the water and having
jellyfish for a snack.
-Landon





BREAK

WE INVITE YOU TO EXPLORE AND CREATE!

- Think about an upcoming unit or theme for your class
- How can you incorporate process art? Are there any planned activities you can shift to allow for more creativity and expression?
- Explore the materials we have set out and HAVE FUN!
- We will come back and share as a group at the end :)



Now that you've had some time to explore and get creative, let's share some ideas!

Thank you for your time and creativity!
Have a great rest of your day!

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