

Primary Education

# ART CAN ALSO BE FOUND ON THE BEACH!

Activity

## OBJECTIVES

- To discover the artistic possibilities offered by nature
- To distinguish between the materials brought by the sea, those created by nature or by human beings
- To appreciate that nature does not generate rubbish

## SKILLS DEVELOPED

- Scientific, technological and health culture
- Language communication
- Social aspects and citizenship
- Humanistic and artistic culture
- Autonomy and personal initiative

## MATERIALS:

- Rubber gloves
- Rubbish bags.

### DEVELOPMENT:

Generally, when we go to the beach with the students we do so with the purpose of carrying out cleaning sessions, to analyse the quality of the water, to identify any living creatures, learn how to surf or paddle a canoe, etc. Now, however, it is time to do something different: ART!

We have recognised that beaches are an ideal place to achieve this, if we take as models the recognisable and spectacular images of dunes. Our suggestion is to use, in addition to the sand, other types of materials such as those brought by the water.

### THE STEPS TO FOLLOW WHEN CONDUCTING THE ACTIVITY ARE:

#### Gathering materials:

This activity should be carried out in the winter, since during the summer the beaches are cleaned and it would not be possible to gather enough material. In this way, taking advantage of the times when the dunes are “dirty”, we can gather all

those objects that we find interesting. It is advisable to wear gloves during this activity.

This is also a good time to observe where those materials come from: some will be rubbish produced by people (plastic bottles, bags, glass fragments...), others on the other hand will be natural (tree trunks and branches, shells, algae...).

#### Expressing emotions!

Now is the time for fun: using our head and channelling our emotions and ideas, create an image or a sculpture. Let's remember that we can also use sand to create shapes. This activity is best carried out in groups as this makes it more enriching.

#### Presentation

When the art work is completed, it will be presented to the group. We will need to explain what we wanted to express with the work and comment on the materials used.



### Durability of the art work

Before bidding farewell to the beach it is appropriate to reflect on the following:

- What should we do with our art work? It is clear that we should leave it behind and allow it to disappear with time but, will all the materials used disappear? Will they all disappear at the same time? And during or after their disintegration, what will happen to them? According to our answers we will have to decide what to do with the materials used.\*
- Are the tree trunks, branches, shells and all similar materials rubbish? If we leave them behind, what will happen to them? Will nature include them in its own cycle?
- And lastly, we propose to immortalise all the sculptures in photographs and use them to organise an exhibition in the school.

*\*It is advisable not to leave behind rubbish such as plastic bottles, bags or glass.*

