

CRAFT

AQUAMAN AND FRIENDS RECYCLED BEADED BRACELETS

AGES

Children 10+ years

Teens/tweens

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Aquaman loves the ocean and wants to keep it clean and healthy for every person and every animal to enjoy for years to come. One way we can help is to recycle and reduce single-use plastic, which often ends up in the ocean. Participants make beads out of recycled paper, then make jewelry or keychains out of their own beads! Older teens could also make beads out of plastic bottles, but this option is more complex and will have sharp edges (protective gloves required). For a shorter program, purchase beads made out of recycled materials and have children use those instead. Suggested runtime: 60–90 min.



Image source: Shutterstock

MATERIALS AND PREPARATION

Materials:

- Magazines
- Scissors
- Reusable straws or doweling
- Glue
- String
- Mod Podge (optional)

To make the beads, cut strips of paper into triangles approximately 12" long x 1" wide. Roll the strips around the straw, starting with the wide end of the triangle, and glue the end piece. Optionally, finish with Mod Podge for extra shine. When dry, string the beads together for jewelry or keychains.

ADDITIONAL FUN:

Watch Aquaman—or any other ocean-themed film to which your library has viewing rights—while making the beads.

CRAFT

UNIQUE STAFF AND PERSONNEL NEEDS

1-2 volunteers to help with bead-making.

RESOURCES

Web

Video on DIY Paper Beads from Magazines from Red Ted Art:
<https://bit.ly/3oXKw0L>

Video on DIY Plastic Bag Beads: <https://bit.ly/3yMaf0n>

“How to Make Recycled Beads from Plastic Bottles” from *The Beading Gem*: <https://bit.ly/3oUQGyF>

Recycled beads for purchase from Etsy: <https://etsy.me/3wD6EjA>

Books

Non-fiction

Plastic Soup: An Atlas of Ocean Pollution (2019) by Michiel Roscam Abbing (YA)

Rachel Carson and Ecology for Kids (2020) by Rowena Rae (children's)

The Sea Around Us, 3rd ed. (2018) by Rachel Carson (YA/adult)

Climate Change: The Science Behind Melting Glaciers and Warming Oceans (2020) by Josh Sneideman and Erin Twamley (children's)

Fiction

Mera: Tidebreaker (2019) by Danielle Paige and Stephen Byrne (YA)

The Highest Tide (2010) by Jim Lynch (YA)