

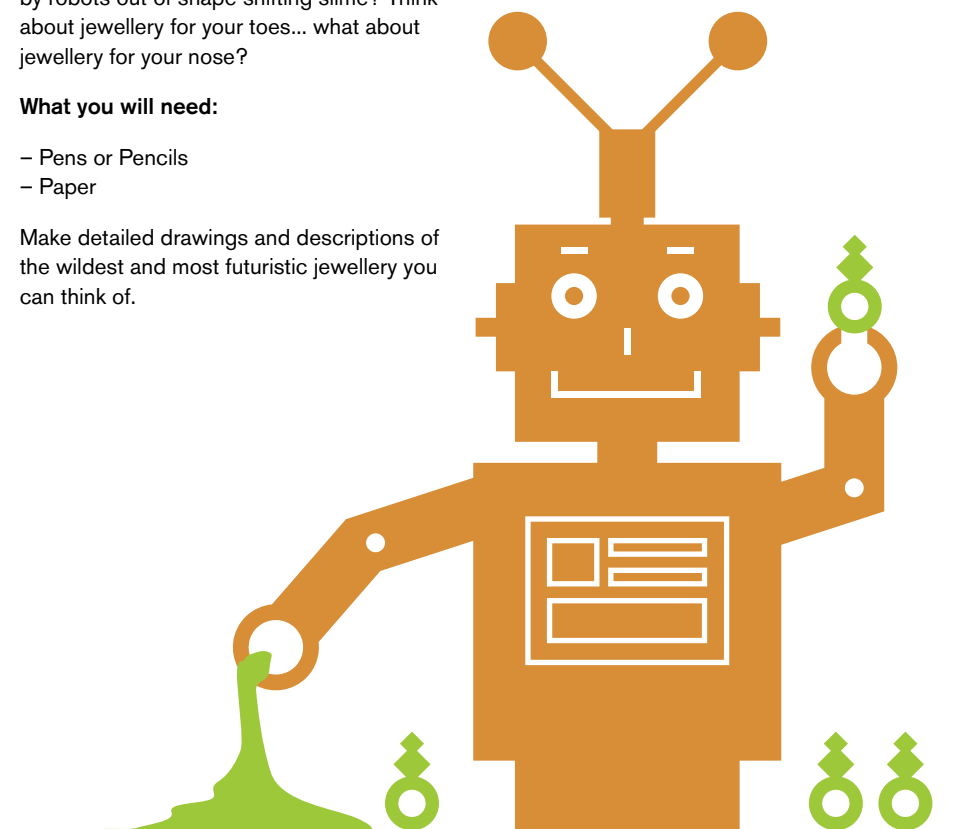
Jewels of the Future

Imagine what jewellery people will wear in the future. Will it be made out of the same things like precious metals or will it be made by robots out of shape-shifting slime? Think about jewellery for your toes... what about jewellery for your nose?

What you will need:

- Pens or Pencils
- Paper

Make detailed drawings and descriptions of the wildest and most futuristic jewellery you can think of.



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A Day in the Life of a Plastic Bag

Five trillion plastic bags are produced each year. Plastic takes 1,000 years to fully biodegrade so each plastic bag we choose to use has a very long life on earth. Let's get creative to get people thinking, talking and changing their behaviours around plastic bag use.

What you will need:

- Paper (why not use some scrap paper like an old envelope?)
- Pen or pencil

Write a story about life as a plastic bag. Who picked you up from the supermarket and where have they taken you? What have you carried? Have you had an exciting and adventurous life? Have you had a sad and lonely life in the bottom of a drawer? Do you have plastic bag friends? And where will you end up; in the sea, in the bin or in a piece of recycled artwork? Write as if you are the plastic bag and be as descriptive as possible.

Watch this short film 'Plastic Bag' by Ramin Bahrani for some inspiration: www.bit.ly/plasticbagfilm

Find someone to share your story with.

Psst... If you lined up all the plastic bags produced each year side by side they would encircle the world 7 times! Taking your own bags to the supermarket can help reduce the number of new bags made.



Answer: Carrots used to be purple, yellow, red and white. The orange carrots we see most often now were cross-bred from red and yellow carrots. It's a bit like how you might mix a new colour of paint with paint you already have... imagine a carrot necklace! Now that would be a tasty treat!

BALTIC

Art Lab Experiments in Creativity

JUNE 2021

Caring for ourselves, each other and our world is really important. These activities from artist Isabella Carerras offer creative ideas to turn something that might normally have ended up in the bin into something wonderful. This is called upcycling.

Creative re-use gives new life to old things and is brilliant for the environment. Share these instructions with your friends so they can be creative too. Send us pictures of what you make by email: learning@balticmill.com

Ask an adult where you can work on your ideas and what to wear when you do, especially when working with messy materials like paint and glue.



Recycled Plant Pots

Keen to be green? Planting things is a great way to start. Plants are very important for our planet and all the things that live on it. They provide both food sources and homes for people, animals and insects, as well as absorbing carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen which we all need to breathe.

Get prepared to plant by making some brilliant up-cycled plant pots out of things you might find in your recycling.

What you will need:

- Recycled containers

Materials to decorate (this will depend on what kind of container you are decorating) you could use...

- PVA glue and tissue paper, newspaper, old magazines
- Paint
- String, raffia

Keep your eyes peeled for containers in your recycling that can be re-imagined as plant pots. Plastic drink bottles, cartons, tin cans or plastic cups can all work well.

Ask an adult to help you cut down your item to the shape you want and pierce some drainage holes in the base of your pot (plants need water but they also hate having wet feet, just like us!). Some containers like tin cans won't need cutting shorter, but be careful of sharp edges. Clean out your chosen item and dry it properly before decorating.

Use your imagination and artistic flair to decorate your pot. You could collage it with tissue paper or magazines. Use PVA to stick all the bits of paper down; this makes the surface water resistant. You could paint onto the pot using your favourite colours and patterns, or what about wrapping it up in string or raffia?

Psst... Just like humans, plants need certain things to be healthy, happy and grow. Before you plant something, research it so you know how to look after it.



Go Go Re-grow; Sprouting from Scraps

Scraps of vegetables don't need to be destined for the bin, some of them can be re-grown and sometimes even eaten again. The parts of the veggies you can re-grow are usually the bits that get chopped off for cooking, so it's a perfect way to re-use something old. Experiment with different vegetables and learn how to sprout from scraps.

What you will need:

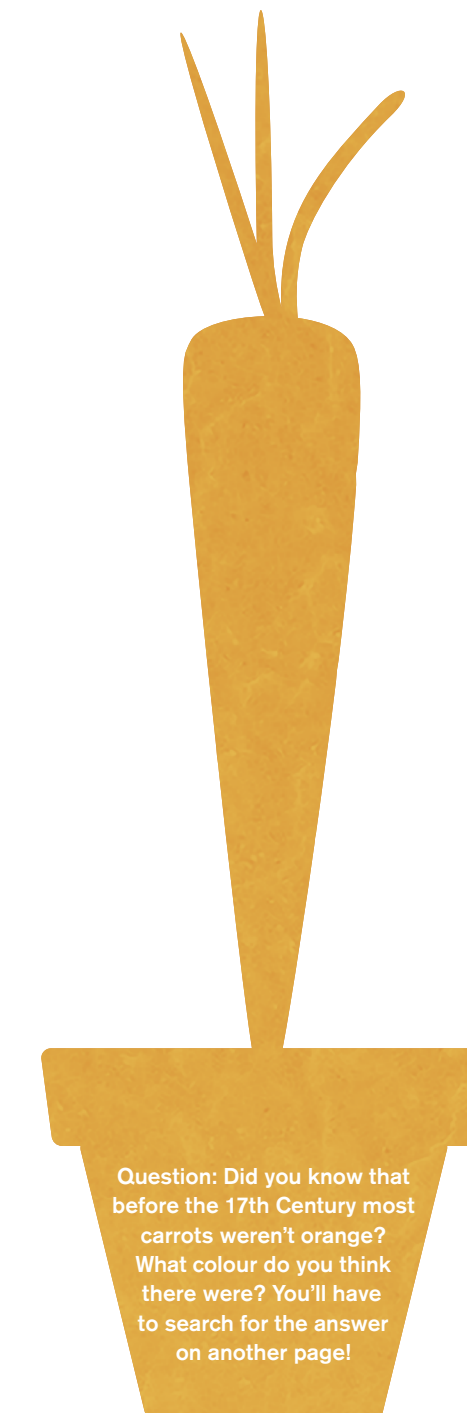
- Vegetable scraps:
 - the tops of carrots, turnips and beetroot (about 2-5cm of top)
 - bases of lettuce, spring onion, celery (about 5cm of base)
- Saucer or plant pot (depending on what you are going to grow)
- Soil or compost (if you are growing lettuce or spring onions)
- Water

Once you've gathered your veggie tops or bottoms you are ready to grow.

For beetroot, carrots and turnips you need the part of the vegetable where the leaves would grow, from this you can grow new leaves which are edible and very delicious.

Place your veggie top on a saucer with a little water and leave it somewhere bright. Keep an eye on it over the next week and you should see roots and leaves start to grow. Change the water every couple of days. When you have lots of lovely leaves, you can harvest them. Carrot tops are tasty raw in a salad, while beetroot and turnip greens can be cooked like spinach or kale. Yum!

Veggies like lettuce, celery and spring onions can be re-grown from the bottom where all the leaves are joined together. Put the cut-off base into a plant pot filled with damp soil and wait for new tasty growth.



Question: Did you know that before the 17th Century most carrots weren't orange? What colour do you think there were? You'll have to search for the answer on another page!