

Sam's Visit
to the
Great Barrier Reef
and the
Art Gallery



Robyn Glade-Wright and Barbara Dover



Stephanie Glade-Wright *Turtle* 1995
Clay, glaze. 10 x 8 x 6 cm

On his holiday, Sam visited the Great Barrier Reef. He saw amazing fish, turtles and starfish. Sam loved to make art like this turtle made from clay.

When Sam visited the art gallery, he saw works of art made by two artists.

In the art gallery, Sam saw these baby turtles, called hatchlings. At night, hatchlings dig their way out of their nest in the sand and crawl down the beach to the sea.

Can you guess what these hatchlings are made from? These plastic items were washed onto the beach from the sea.



Barbara Dover *Plasticene Hatchlings* 2018
Found hard hats, plastic debris washed up on far north
Queensland beaches, nylon, tape. 20 x 20 x 40 cm



Robyn Glade-Wright *Dump* 2018
Found plastic debris washed up on far north
Queensland beaches, palm seed cases, paint.
90 x 90 x 12 cm

In the art gallery, Sam discovered how plastic rubbish can wash down the drains and be carried by rivers into the sea.

This artwork is called *Dump*. Palm tree seed pods are like boats.

These boats look like they carry plastics rubbish to the sea.



Robyn Glade-Wright *Catch of the Day* 2017
Plastic waste found on far north Queensland
beaches, wire, solar lights. 175 x 60 x 30 cm

Sea creatures sometimes mistake plastic rubbish floating in the sea for food. Fish, whales, dolphins, and turtles become sick when they eat plastic for their dinner.

Can you see what is in this whale's tummy? The whale died after it had eaten lots of plastic.



Robyn Glade-Wright *Catch of the Day - Detail* 2017
Plastic waste found on far north Queensland
beaches, wire, solar lights. 175 x 60 x 30 cm

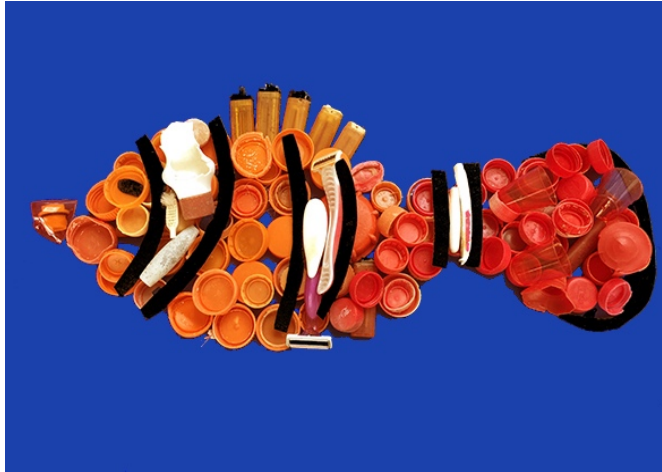
Many items, like the plastic knives and forks in these *Very Fishy* fish are used once before they are thrown away.

This is a concern because plastic is made from crude oil, which takes millions of years to form in the ground. People can pump the oil to the surface and send it to factories to make plastic in a few days. We often use the plastic once before throwing it away.

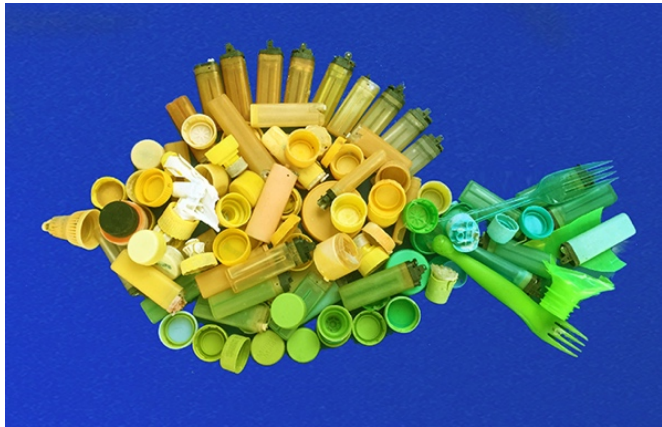
Most plastic lasts for hundreds of years. It breaks up into smaller pieces so plastic will harm sea animals for a very long time.



Robyn Glade-Wright *Very Fishy* 2018
Waste plastic knives, forks, spoons, paint.
175 x 60 x 30 cm



Robyn Glade-Wright *Top Nemo* 2020
Found plastic washed up on far north
Queensland beaches. 50 x 20 x 5 cm



Robyn Glade-Wright *Top Fish* 2020
Found plastic washed up on far north
Queensland beaches. 50 x 20 x 5 cm

By 2050, rubbish in the sea will weigh more than the weight of all sea creatures.

Sam wondered how old he will be in 2050. Do you know how old you will be in the year 2050?

These necklaces are made from plastic rubbish and rope washed up on the seashore near the Great Barrier Reef.

The necklaces are called *Choke* because birds and sea creatures can choke when they eat plastic or become tangled in rubbish such as rope and fishing line.

Can you see what items are hanging on the necklaces?



Robyn Glade-Wright
Choke: Tops 2018
Found plastic waste & rope washed up on far north Queensland beaches.
50 x 20 x 5 cm



Robyn Glade-Wright
Choke: Spades 2018
Found plastic toy shovels & rope washed up on far north Queensland beaches.
50 x 20 x 5 cm

This work of art is a thong tree. All the thongs hanging on this tree were washed up on the seashore.

Sam discovered that the plastic rubbish in all the works of art he saw in the gallery had been collected by people who want to clean up the beaches and the sea.



Barbara Dover *Marine bloom* 2018
Found plastic thongs collected from north Queensland
beaches, found fishing rods, found metal stand.
220 x 175 x 175 cm



Barbara Dover *Decoy* 2018
Found squid hooks found on far north
Queensland beaches, metal, glue.
30 x 30 x 25 cm

Sam loved this beautiful work of art that looks like a piece of coral. It is made from plastic squid hooks. These spiky squid hooks were floating in the sea.

It must not be very nice for sea creatures to share their home with these prickly squid hooks.

To take care of all the beautiful wild animals, Sam and these artists hope that everyone will collect rubbish that has washed up on the beach. Also, to help reduce plastic going into the sea, we can put waste plastic in a recycle bin, use less plastic or use the special new plastics that do not last for a very long time.

Sam thinks that we are very lucky to share Australia and our planet with beautiful birds and sea creatures.



Robyn Glade-Wright *Top Fish* 2020
Found plastic washed up on far north
Queensland beaches. 50 x 20 x 5 cm

Life in the Sea and on the Seashore Art Explorations for Primary School Children

Hatchlings

A hatchling is a newly hatched baby turtle who has just come out of his or her egg. Use air dry clay, papier-mâché or found objects to make a hatchling.

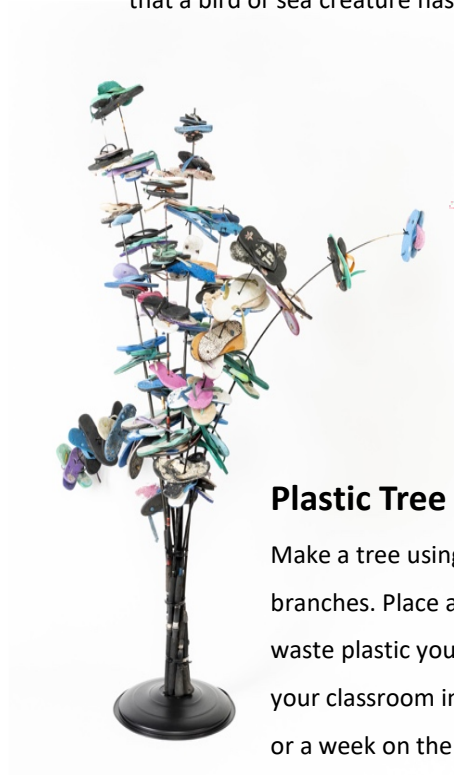


Clean up the Sea Machine

Design a machine to collect plastic from the rivers and the sea. Recycled cardboard boxes and plastic containers can be used to create your machine. View the *Googly-Eyed Trash Eater* online.

X - ray Vision

Imagine that you are a scientist. You can see inside of animals such as sea creatures and birds with your very special machine. Paint a picture with X-ray vision showing the plastic that a bird or sea creature has eaten.



Plastic Tree

Make a tree using branches. Place all the waste plastic you use in your classroom in a day or a week on the tree.



Necklace

Make a necklace from waste plastic that you collect. You might like to cut out shapes from the plastic. Can you make the necklace attractive by using different colours and shapes?



Fantasy Aquarium

Use coloured plastic bottle tops or plastic that you collect to make coloured sea creatures. Write a story about what happens to sea animals when plastic and squid hooks are dumped in their home.

Barbara Dover & Robyn Glade-Wright are exhibiting in the following venues:

Artspace Mackay: 24 January – 5 April 2020.

Call 4961 9779 or email: artspace@mackay.qld.gov.au to arrange a school visit.

Hervey Bay Regional Gallery: 1 May – 7 June 2020.

Call 4197 4206 or email: regionalgallery@frasercoast.qld.gov.au to arrange a school visit.

KickArts Contemporary Art Cairns: 6 August – 26 September 2020.

Call 4050 9494 or email: administration@kickarts.org.au to arrange a school visit.

Umbrella Studio Contemporary Arts Townsville: 13 October – 15 November 2020.

Call 4772 7109 or email: office@umbrella.org.au to arrange a school visit.



THIS PROJECT IS SUPPORTED BY THE QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT THROUGH ARTS QUEENSLAND

Barbara Dover

Practicing artist: Barbara's work investigates our relationship with animals and, more broadly, the natural world, at the intersection of aesthetics and ethics. Her multidisciplinary contemporary art practice examines the familiarities and intricacies of human-animal relations within the understanding of animals as sentient individuals whose moral status, interests and lives matter.

Contact: bd@barbaradover.com

Associate Professor Robyn Glade-Wright

Practicing artist and arts educator : Robyn Glade-Wright seeks to create a sense of disquiet in her works of art to engender reflection about the kind of life (and death) we impose on sentient creatures. Glade-Wright's works of art respond to the ecological crisis of the Anthropocene in a form that conflates beauty and dread, and allure and anxiety to provoke contemplation of these terms in an effort to foster a sustainable future for life on this small planet.

Contact: robyn.gladewright@jcu.edu.au