



The painting above is by the artist **Barrie Cooke** and is part of the UCC Art Collection. Climate Action and Sustainability priority strand for the Glucksman's community programmes. We are proud to partner with UCC Green Campus on creative projects that explore environmental issues. You can find out more here: <http://www.glucksman.org/discover/community/climate-action-and-sustainability>

This week's **#creativityathome** activities encourage you to think about sustainability and individual action, we're inviting you to make your own homemade art materials.

CREATIVE EXPLORATION

Water is a precious resource that is part of our daily lives. Did you know 99% of the world's water cannot be used because it is sea water or it is frozen in glaciers or ice sheets. Only 0.3% of water is found in rivers or lakes. What actions can we take in our home to limit water use? Ask members of your family about ideas they have to conserve water. Even the smallest actions can have an impact.

Water can reflect all kinds of colours. In Barrie Cooke's painting, there are lots of blues and greens. How will you paint water?

ART ACTIVITY

MATERIALS: Salt, flour, tablespoon, teaspoon, food colouring (dye), water, bowls or jam jars, paintbrush, mixing tray, paper.

*If you have old plastic squeezable bottles (from ketchup or mayo) they are a great way to store and use your paint.

*If you don't have a mixing tray, you can cover a bit of cardboard with tin foil.

Today, we are going to make homemade paint and will use these paints to create a painting that tracks the journey of water from source to tap.

Activity 1: Make your own paints

Making your own art materials is a fun and creative way to encourage sustainability in your home. You'll need to get some help finding the basic household items listed above.

Check out our tutorial video for a step by step guide. Use a different jar for each different colour. Remember the three primary colours are – yellow, red and blue - and these can be mixed in different variations to create a whole range of new colours.

Gather all your ingredients. You'll need a bowl for each paint colour.
Add one tablespoon of food colouring to each of the bowls.
Add a cup of flour and a cup of salt to the bowl.
Stir in a cup of cold water and mix until smooth.
You may need to add more food colouring at this point to get the colour you want.
Transfer your paint to a jar or squeezable bottle.
Shake before using.

Well done you've made your own paint. Enjoy!!

Activity 2: Water's Long Journey

Did you ever wonder how water gets to your home? We use water all the time, for drinking, cooking, washing, flushing the toilet, brushing our teeth and for many other daily tasks. Water needs to go on a remarkable journey before it finds its way to your house.

Using our very own paints we're going to create a map that tracks this journey from source to tap! You may need some assistance from a parent or guardian as you research your local water supply.

The journey will begin at a local lake or river, it will head to a water treatment plant where it's made safe for drinking, travelling through huge underground pipes to a local reservoir and from here through a smaller pipe system to your home.

Take a piece of paper and draw out the water's journey, now let's bring your artwork to life with some brilliant colours!

We would love to see what artworks you create. Ask your parents or guardian to share them with us on the Glucksman's and through their [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts and we will post them to our online galleries on our website.

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