Welcome Back Explorers!
Let’s create something new!
For today's project you need to gather all your thinking caps.

First, put on your Artist cap!
Next, your Literacy cap!
Next, your Science cap!
And on the tip top, put on that Math cap too!
Today’s Art Project:
Mangrove Habitat Cave
Lesson 1 of 2

Today’s Literacy Standard:
LAFS.1.RI.3.8 - I can identify the reasons an author gives to support points in a text.
Let’s read about a mangrove habitat so we know how to create our mangrove cave.
Below are excerpts from Camille Vittin’s book, *Life in the Mangrove Forest*

To read the full book please go to: https://www.storyjumper.com/book/read/33867676/Life-in-the-Mangrove-Forest

Some text has been edited for this project.

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What are mangroves?
Mangroves are small shrubs or trees that grow in salt water. They are the habitats for countless different species in about one hundred and eighteen countries!
These trees have roots that reach deep underwater and systems that allow them to filter out the salt from the water they absorb. As a result, mangroves are considered to be salt-tolerant trees.

**Question:** What does the author want us to understand?

**Answer:** Mangrove trees have deep underwater roots that are salt tolerant.
Mangroves have many roots above and below water that create a system. This system creates many places for animals to live and hide.

**Question:** What do you see in the image that supports the text?

**Answer:** Mangrove trees have many roots.
Time to get started on our Mangrove Habitat Cave!

Gather some recycled materials. Find a box in the recycle bin. It can be any size, from a shoe box to one you can fit inside.
Step 1 - I recycled a computer box and experimented with how to set it up.

Step 2 - I put my blue towels and fabric in to make it look like water, just like the image of the mangrove.

The underwater roots are called prop roots.
Step 3 - Creating Mangrove roots, one prop root at a time with cardboard tubes.

First, twist and tie your plastic bags together to make a flexible rope. Poke holes in your box, where you want the root to begin and end.

Next, poke two holes with a pencil in your box, where you want the prop root to begin and end. Push your plastic through a hole. Put the tubes on the plastic. Push or tie the loose end in the second hole.
Step 4 - Creating the mangrove roots, one prop root at a time with twisted paper.

Another way to create prop roots is to twist brown paper. First, rip your brown bags into many strips. The strips can all be different lengths. Then twist them as tight as you can.

Next, layout all your prop roots and decide where you want the longest roots to begin and end.
Step 5 - Poking holes and inserting your roots.

First, punch holes with your pencil for the longest roots. Sometimes you have to use your pencil like a drill to make the holes bigger.

HELPFUL TIP 1. You may have to twist your ends really tight to push them through the hole.

HELPFUL TIP 2. Keep going. You’re doing great!

HELPFUL TIP 3. Some new prop roots only need one hole. The other end hasn’t reached the water yet.

New prop root

mangroves are halophytic (salt-loving) and can survive in salt water habitats
Final step for Lesson 1 - Set up your mangrove cave and try it out!

Gather your blue fabrics to create the water and place them inside your mangrove cave.

Next time we'll continue to create different parts of the mangrove habitat.

What else would you like to create?

Here are some ideas!
Next time for Mangrove Habitat Cave Lesson 2

What else can we create that will describe the key details in this image?
This art lesson is brought to you by (Tracy Rosof-Petersen) and Center for Creative Education in West Palm Beach, Florida.


Thank you for joining me and trying your best!

See you next time.
Ms. Tracy