Marinated Language Murals
Lesson by Patty Enright, Stillwater, MN

Key Concept
1. Marine vocabulary and concepts can be reinforced through art activities.

Background
From “being crabby” to “squall”, the marine environment and maritime culture have produced a rich and varied vocabulary. This vocabulary, as well as marine related concepts, can be expanded and reinforced through art activities.

Materials
For each group of students:
• one large piece of rolled paper, tagboard, etc.
• crayons or markers
• a list of water-related words

Teaching Hints
In “Marinated Language Murals”, students work in small groups to design and construct a mural using marine related pictures and words.

Procedure
1. Brainstorm a list of water-related words.
   Examples:
   sailing     seep     aquarium     cruises
   blue heron  whales    porpoises    silt
   bridges     sand      typhoon      fresh
   limnology   ski       oil spill     kelp
   oceans      lakes     wetlands     seaweed
   sewage      floods    chlorine     Titanic
   ferries     ships     canoes       salt
   lily pads   turtles   life cycle   umbrella
   current     tide      oxygen       fish
   pH          gulls     acid rain    SCUBA diving
   algae       bubbles   crustaceans  brackish
   nitrites    safety    waves        storm
   snow        ducks     rain forest  squall
2. Have students work in small groups to design a mural using pictures and/or words. The following are two student examples:

![Mural Example 1](image1.png)

![Mural Example 2](image2.png)

3. You may choose to make topics more specific, for example: tide pools, storms, sources of pollution, recreation or transportation on the water, wetlands, fresh water food chains, etc.

4. Display the murals and have each group present and discuss its mural.