World Oceans Day Arts and Crafts: Upcycled Jellies

Design a beautiful handmade jelly from an upcycled yogurt container. Reusing old materials, like a yogurt container, is a fantastic way to reduce the amount of plastic pollution.

Items Needed

- One empty, clean and dry yogurt container (paper bowls work well if a yogurt container is not available)
- Paint (orange, blue, purple, or pink work best, but pick any color you want!)
- Paintbrush
- Yarn, ribbon, or streamers
- String
- Scissors
- Scotch tape
- Paper clip or button
- Optional: googly eyes or black permanent marker
Step One: Punch a hole at the center of the yogurt container using scissors. (If needed, ask an adult for help!)

Step Two: Paint the outside of the yogurt container. Be creative and add details like spots, stripes, or other shapes! Let the painted yogurt container fully dry. The yogurt container will become the jelly’s umbrella shaped body, also known as the bell.

Step Three: Cut a piece of string about 8-10 inches in length. Tie one end of the string to a paper clip or button.
Step Four: Insert the free end of the string from inside the yogurt container through the center hole, and pull all the way through. The paper clip or button serves as a stopper. Secure the paper clip or button with tape on the inside of the yogurt container.

Step Five: Cut eight to 20 long strips of yarn, ribbon, or streamers to create the jelly’s tentacles and oral arms.

*Tentacles are long, thin structures that hang from the jelly’s bell. Tentacles are often lined with cnidocytes containing nematocysts which deliver the jelly’s signature sting used to capture prey.*

*In most jellies, oral arms are found among the tentacles and move captured prey to the jelly’s mouth, which is usually found on the underside of the bell.*

Step Six: Once the painted yogurt container is dry, tape one end of a tentacle to the inside of the yogurt container. Continue until all tentacles are attached.
Step Seven: Carefully turn the yogurt container upside down, and check out your jelly!

(Optional) Step Eight: Glue googly eyes or draw eyes with a black permanent marker.

Step Nine: Make more jellies! Hang the jellies from the ceiling or a railing to give your home the perfect under-the-sea feel.

Happy World Oceans Day!