

Rasitha Sanjeewa, *Fish Skeleton*, 2013

Inspiration Artist: Rasitha Sanjeewa

Age Range: Primary

Subject Areas: Science (Environmental science)

POLLUTION TO SOLUTION



**NATIONAL
GALLERY**

**CAYMAN
ISLANDS**

In This Packet

In this lesson, students will learn what pollution is and how they can turn common pollutants like plastic into art that comments on our environment.



What Is Pollution?

Pollution happens when something that is harmful or poisonous enters the environment.

Pollutants can be very dangerous to living creatures including humans, animals and plants.

Pollution can hurt our land, air and water. It can even effect light and noise!



Common Pollutants

Common pollutants include man-made waste such as plastics, dangerous chemicals, factory gases and sewage.



Plastic bottles and caps



Plastic shopping bags



Bubble wrap



Toxic smoke



Toothpaste tubes



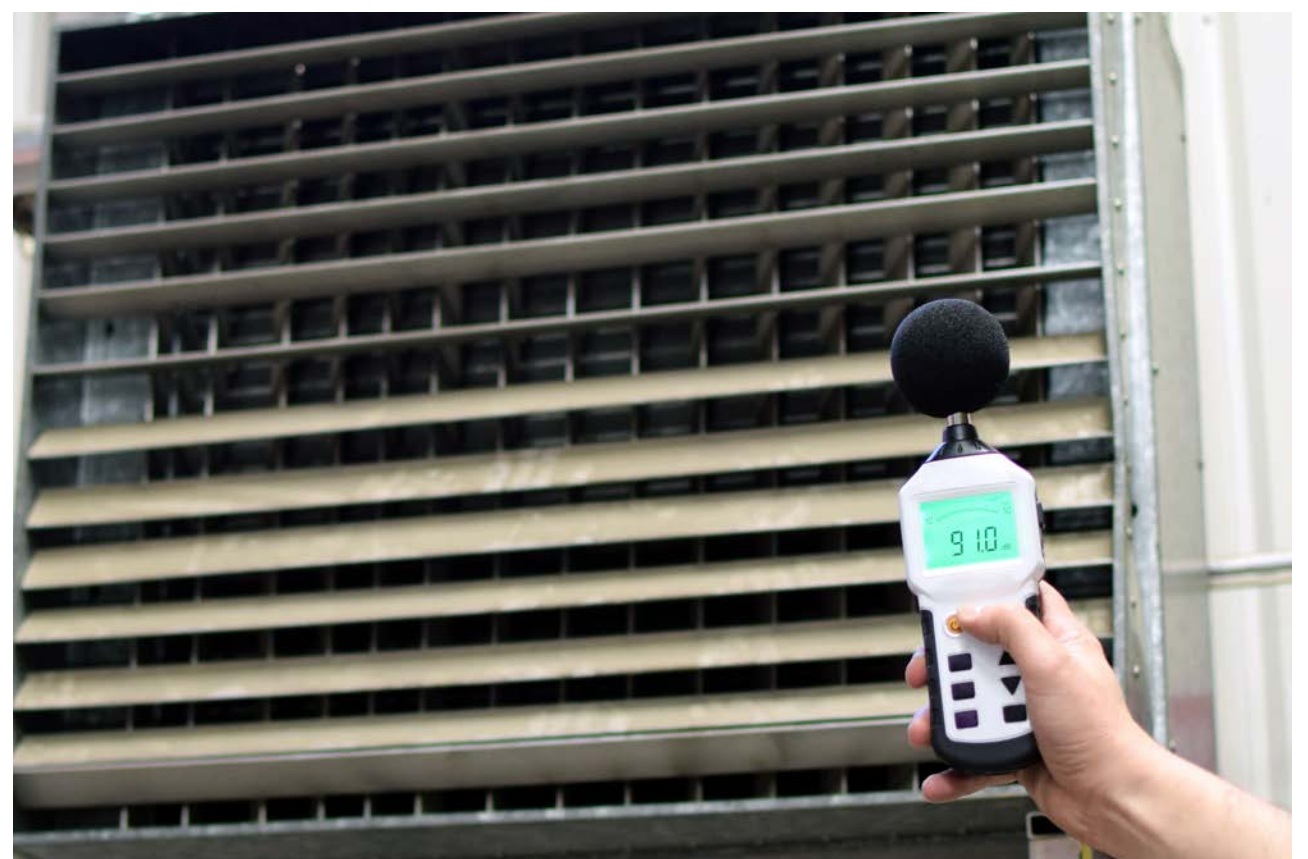
Chemical cleaning products

Look at these images and match them with the type of pollution you see.









Air

Land

Water

Noise

Solutions for Pollution

One way to lower pollution is to **recycle**.

Recycling means finding new ways to use things that you would normally throw away.

When you recycle, less garbage ends up in our landfill, you protect nature by making less waste, you save energy, and you help to lower the amount of harmful gases in the air we breathe!



Ways to Recycle

Always try your best not to use harmful pollutants, but if you have to:

Split your garbage up into groups based on their material: plastic, glass, paper or aluminium.

Take them to Government recycling bins located at your local supermarket!

Some items like small bottle caps, food-soiled cardboard, plastic sandwich bags and other thin plastics cannot be recycled by taking them to a Government recycling bin.

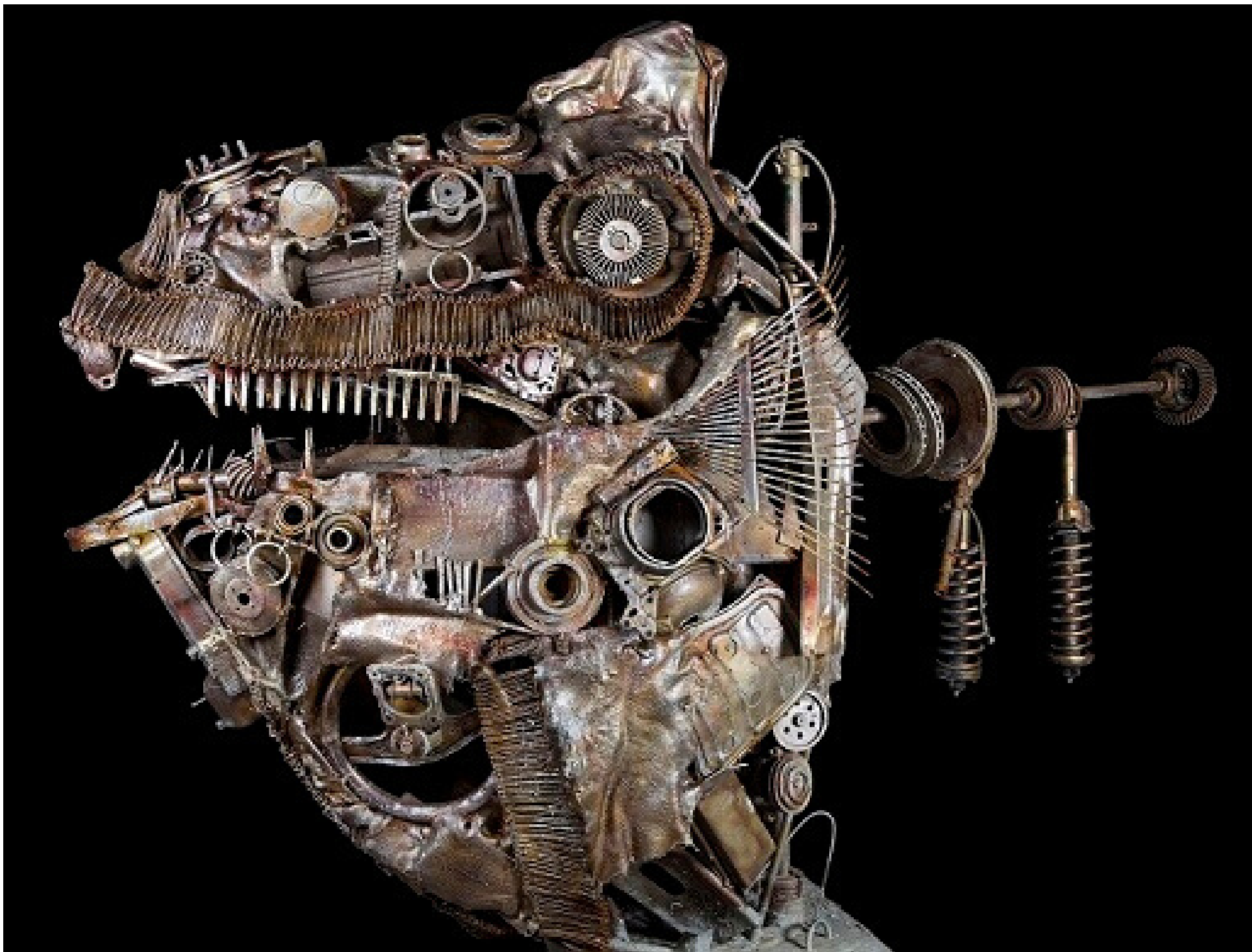
You can make these non-recyclable items into works of art instead!

Not only will your work of art make garbage into something beautiful, it will also say a lot about why recycling is important for our environment!

Local Recycled Art

Rasitha Sanjeewa was born in Sri Lanka in 1972. Sanjeewa moved to the Cayman Islands after 2004's Hurricane Ivan, and began turning trash into works of recycled art. In *Fish Skeleton*, Sanjeewa made different kinds of scrap metal into a sculpture.

Take a look at this artwork. What recycled metal objects can you find?



Art Activity: Egg Carton Tree

Materials:

- Cardboard egg carton
- Paper
- Crayons/paint
- Scissors
- Glue

Cut out each section of the egg carton as seen in the example photo.

Next, paint or colour each section. You can use green to make a tree, or choose different colors for flowers or fruit.



Source: [Glued To My Crafts Blog](http://GluedToMyCraftsBlog.com)

Draw or paint or a tree trunk onto your piece of paper.

Glue the egg carton sections onto the paper to make your tree any shape you wish.

Optional: Students can glue on glitter or draw on their favorite fruit.

Art Activity: Bottle Cap Underwater Scene

Materials:

- Bottle caps
- Paper or construction paper
- Markers, crayons or coloured pencils
- Scissors
- Glue (wet glue works best)

Draw small triangles onto a piece of construction paper to make the tail fins for your fish. If you do not have construction paper, you can do this with regular paper by colouring in the triangles with a marker, crayon or coloured pencil.



Cut out the triangles and set aside.

Glue one bottle cap onto the paper, then glue down one triangle touching the cap so it resembles a tail fin.

Continue the above steps all over your paper. You can add googly eyes if you have them (or cut out little circles for eyes), glitter or any other special touches you like. Draw on bubbles, seaweed or any other underwater details.