

Series F, 2nd Qtr, Week 26: Your Art Class Shucks Oysters

Ousters have been around for 15 million years. Oysters are bivalve mollusks that filter the water and form reefs, beds, and colonies. There is a hard outer shell and the inside of it is a beautiful pearlised white shell with a spot where the oyster connects. Also, inside is a protective layer inside call the mantle. When sand or some other irritant comes into the oyster shell, the oyster covers it with a calcium protein called nacre. The nacre forms a pearl taking anywhere from 6 months to 4 years. Pearls are considered real treasures and are used as jewels. When an oyster is shucked, or opened, sometimes a pearl is revealed. Your Art Class can shuck your oyster and enjoy the artistic beauty of the oyster shell and its shape.

Download and print one of the black and white drawings on to cardstock. Complete by adding color, then try another beginning drawing. Then draw your own oysters.

<u>Music Suggestion</u>: "The world is my Oyster" and "My Girl" by Frank Sinatra reveal oysters. So do Billie Holliday's "Let's call the whole thing off;" Nat King Cole's "Let There be Love;" Glen Gray's "Fresh as a Daisy;" and Perry Como's "The Last Straw."

Enrichment: Study "Oysters" by Jennifer Rodrigue Ransone found at Jennifer Rodrigue Art. Her unique interpretation is wonderful. "The Oyster Gatherers of Cancale" by American artist John Singer Sargent (1856-1925) reveals people with baskets to collect the found oysters. French Impressionist Edouard Manet (1832-1883) did "oysters" for you to study.

Aspect of Art: Line: The slender markings that determine the outline or shape. One of the seven elements of art.













