

Henri Matisse

“The Goldfish”

Submitted by Kellie Wilson-Cohen, 2014

“The Goldfish” – Baby Food Jar Project - What you will need:

Enough glass baby food jars WITH LIDS for each child (I contacted a local day care center and they saved them for me)

Snack bags with zip lock seal for each child

Paint (for baby food jar lid – I found an enamel, indoor spray paint which worked well)

2 lb. bag aquarium “gravel” – whatever color you choose. 2 lb. should be about perfect for a full class

Small shells

String (to attach goldfish to bottom of baby food jar lid)

Fish (you can draw/trace these and copy on white paper to make more – no bigger than the “Goldfish” snack fish – SEE LAST PAGE – I INCLUDED THE ONES I USED.)

Instructions:

1. Clean the jars, getting that “glue” off. You can wash off the label with soap and water, but that glue is tough – I used “Goof Off” (wear gloves!) and it came right off with that.
2. Clean lids. When they are dry, (spray) paint them whatever color you wish.
3. Cut string and hang them with tape from inside of jar lid (a few years ago I let the kids tape one end to inside of jar and other side to fish – it’s too much for them – so this year I am taping to lid, and kids can tape fish to the bottom part of string). I cut two strings, maybe about 5 inches, made an “X” with them, and taped the middle of the “X” to the middle of the lid. When you put the lid back on the jar, make sure the string is HIGH enough so that the fish attached don’t drag on the gravel. They should be “floating” in the jar. If they are too long, trim them ahead of time, then put lids on, ensuring all 4 strings hanging down get inside the jar.
4. Take enough snack bags for each child, and in each one, put:
 - A scoop of gravel (a small coffee scoop was the perfect size)
 - About 7 small shells (I would pick a variety and of different sizes for each bag.)
 - 4 paper goldfish (let the kids color and cut them out completely.)
5. Have kids take out shells and set them aside. Cut a SMALL hole in bottom part of bag and empty the blue gravel into the glass jar. Then set shells in. Color, cut, and attach goldfish, put on lid.



