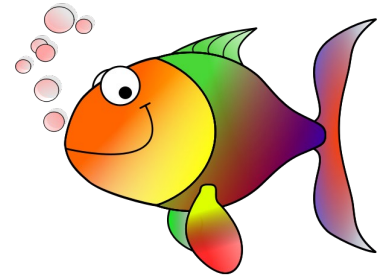# Make a Fish!

Gather

- Recycled materials (cardboard tubes, cans, foil, etc.)
- Craft supplies (google eyes, sequins, pipe cleaners, etc.)
- Colored paper or old magazine pages
- Tape or glue
- Scissors
- Markers

Let's Create!

1. Use a cardboard tube, box, or can for the body of your fish.
2. Draw or use google eyes, and determine how you'll make the mouth (maybe a piece of pipe cleaner or paper? Maybe just leave the end of the tube open?)
3. Cut scales and fins from paper and glue them onto the body. The scales should overlap just like they do on a real fish! Maybe make your own "Rainbow Fish" like the story by making one of the fishes you'd find in Virginia, the Rainbow Trout!

How Does it Work?

Fish come in all sorts of colors, sizes, and shapes. Each one of those characteristics helps the fish survive in its environment. Different types of coloring can keep the fish camouflaged, or hidden, from predators, while size and shape help the fish fit into the waterway that it lives in. While fish are animals just like people, they have many unique characteristics that make them…fish! To learn more, visit:

https://www.ducksters.com/animals/fish.php

Take it Further!

Research some of the other fishes you might find in our region in the streams, lakes, and rivers of central Virginia. Why is it important to keep pollution out of our watersheds? What kind of animals depend on a healthy fish population as a food source? For more information, visit:

https://www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/fish/
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jgXB3gInzJs
http://kids.nceas.ucsb.edu/biomes/freshwater.html