

## RE-USE | RE-THINK

Inspired by the resourcefulness of indigenous Arctic peoples, this activity invites you to re-use the materials in your kit to make something new.

We suggest that you try to make something with a purpose: either something functional or practical; ceremonial or celebratory; or for spiritual protection. Work with care.



What tools might you use to help you? What skills will you need?

Can you collaborate with other people – perhaps trading ideas, techniques and surplus materials?

Draw inspiration from the objects in the galleries. How are they made? What are they for?

The materials are all reclaimed from waste. Most are a form of packaging: plastic netting for the convenient sale of fruit and vegetables; rubber bands used to bind spring onions and asparagus; acetate from the windows on cereal boxes; plastic coated wire to secure toys in presentation boxes.

These items have all been carefully chosen because they have different qualities which you might explore.

These materials are not typically recycled, so we can help keep them out of landfill by re-purposing them.

In some cases, we might also question whether we could avoid producing them in the first place.

What other materials could you reclaim from your non-recyclable waste, and repurpose?

Visit the exhibition

**The Stuff of Life | The Life of Stuff**  
to see how contemporary artists are using salvaged materials to create artworks which challenge us to question our consumption.

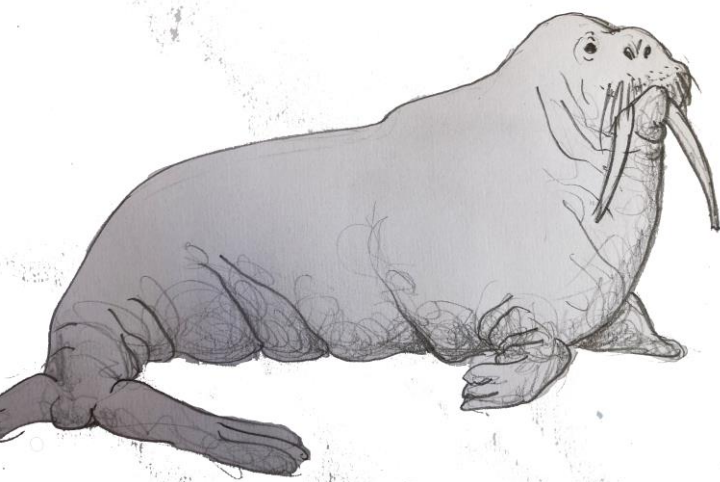
Artist Kate Munro has worked with Becca Sturgess to develop this activity for the Sainsbury Centre.

Kate is a sculptor, who likes to work in ice, she has been inspired by her travels to Greenland. There, she said, resources are very precious, so every last scrap of animals which were hunted would be made use of.

The great skill of the Arctic craftsperson, handed down through generations, was used to make something beautiful, spiritual, or useful out of *all* of the remains.

Nothing would go to waste - small pieces would be carefully carved by hand into things like pendants, amulets and gaming pieces like those in the Sainsbury Collection.

In the Arctic there is a tradition of re-using materials wherever possible – fixing, joining and combining things in creative ways to mend useful objects and repurpose resources.



Many Arctic peoples consider that they are part of the natural world, they do not own it. Kate feels that this attitude is very different to elsewhere in the world, where people take as much as they can get from the environment.

Walrus play a key part in the lives of many indigenous Arctic Peoples, like the Inuit people who live in Alaska, Canada and Greenland. Despite the threats to the walrus population, Arctic Peoples are still allowed to hunt them as they have a huge respect for these creatures, and do not hunt excessively. This human activity has been part of the Arctic ecosystem for thousands of years.

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