ECO-ART PROJECT: PLASTIC BOTTLE CAP LOCKET

Bottle caps can also be a fashion statement. Students can create a locket as a treasure for themselves or someone special to show how much they care. This fun and imaginative art project allows students to show their creativity and unique personalities by allowing them to customize their locket with photos, messages and colors. These lockets can serve as a gift for family or friends around holidays such as Mother's Day, Father's Day or Valentine's Day, or any day!

What You'll Need:

- 2 plastic bottle caps per student
- 1 3-inch piece of 1/2 inch wide ribbon per student
- 1 tiny paper circle to fit inside 1 cap per student
- 1 small photo or drawing of each student
- 1 yard of yarn or string per student
- Colored permanent markers
- Stickers, paint, and brushes (optional)
- Beads
- Glue or hot glue gun (<u>for teacher's use only</u>)

What to Do:

- 1. Ask your students to bring in a small photo or drawing of themselves for this project.
- 2. Have students decorate the outside of the two bottle caps as the outside of the locket using stickers, permanent markers, or paint.
- 3. Place a little bit of glue on the inside circle of each bottle cap. Fold the wide ribbon in half tightly, and place one end inside of one of the bottle caps, pressing it flat against the glue. Take the same step using the other side of the ribbon and the other bottle cap. **you may also use a hot glue gun for these steps, if you have one available. Only teachers should handle the hot glue gun.
- 4. While this dries, ask each student to write a special message on the small paper circle and use glue to adhere it to the inside of one bottle cap, on top of the ribbon.
- 5. Cut the photos or drawings to fit the inside the bottle cap and use glue to adhere each photo/drawing to the inside of the *other* bottle cap, also on top of the ribbon.
- 6. Once this has dried, the folded part or crease of the ribbon should be at the top of the caps so that they fit together like a clam shell (see photo above).
- 7. Next, thread the yarn or string underneath the crease of the ribbon and add one or more beads on either side.
- 8. Tie the yarn or string in a knot around the crease of the ribbon. If you'd like, you can even put a little bit of glue on the insides of the folded ribbon to make sure the two sides stay together.
- 9. Finally, secure the two ends of yarn or string in a circle with a double knot at the top of your necklace and you're done!

