“The water understands civilization well,” begins Ralph Waldo Emerson’s poem titled “Water.” Born in Boston in 1803, Emerson entered Harvard College at the age of fourteen. Through his writings about Arabia, India, and Persia, he exposed American readers to non-Western modes of thinking, metaphysical concepts, and sacred mythologies.

On water, Emerson continues:

“Well used, it decketh joy, 
Adorneth, doublet joy: 
Ill used, it will destroy.”

This issue of ChildArt is a tribute to Emerson and a guide for you on ways to understand, respect, and use water well.

Happy reading!
A 501(c)(3) charity, the ICAF has been nurturing children’s creativity and developing empathy through the arts since 1997.

Published since 1998, *ChildArt* is a commercial-free arts learning, self-discovery, and global competency periodical written expressly for 10 to 14 year-olds but useful as a teaching tool for early educators and inspirational for creative individuals of all ages. Subscribe to *ChildArt* online at www.icaf.org.

When a child’s creativity is ignored, it could be lost forever. Tax-deductible donations support children’s creative and empathic development. You can donate online at www.icaf.org or mail your check to: ICAF, P. O. Box 58133, Washington, DC 20037.

---

**CONTENT**

4  Water in Our Lives
6  Dr. Barbara C. Bruno, Carlie Wiener and Michelle H. Hsia, *How Well Do You Know Your Ocean?*
8  Sonia Monson, *Conservation Meets Creativity*
10 Wyland, *Marine Life Artist*
12 Steven Solomon, *Economics and Politics of Water*
14 Nayer Kazemi, *Water Sculpture*
15 Dr. Mark LeChevalier, *American Water Scientist*
16 Where Does Your Tap Water Come From?
17 Linnaea Avenell, *Exploring Natural Habitats*
18 Water in Your Body
20 Water Cycle
21 Dr. Wendy Pabich, *Taking on Water*
22 Arlene Goode, *Managing Water in Changing Environment*
24 Jon Rose, *Waves for Water*
26 California Food Policy, *Thirsty? Drink Water in School*
27 Rebecca Rauch-Thane, *Water Research*
28 Discover Water, *Water Hopscotch*
30 Smithsonian’s National Zoo, *Washed Ashore*
32 Dr. Ben Braga, *Can Kids Solve the World’s Water Problems?*
33 Earth’s Freshwater