

Artist TV Show Proposal

SART3770

W26

Avery, Lamiss, Payton and Wendy

Title: School of Fish “The Episode”

Other Options:

- Shoal of Fish
- One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish
- Tank Talks with Coral
- Storytime with Coral

TV Show Synopsis:

“School of Fish” is a children’s program, aimed at addressing climate change and related topics. “School of Fish,” uses various segments to creatively combine fact-based content with exploration of artistic solutions and practices. The Episode opens with a Storytime/Story Book Style introduction. The audience is introduced to the host of the show, Coral, the Purple Staghorn Coral. Coral is an endangered species. Coral created this show to teach kids about climate change and the species that are affected.

Writer’s Room Topics:

- Building on the idea of climate change the following subtopics came up:
 - o animal extinction
 - o climate event
 - o climate anxiety
 - o climate politics
- Thinking about formatting of children’s TV
 - o Separate segments to address different main ideas
 - o Lido TV – use of segments and approach to tough convos in kids programming
 - o SLEDD – use of segments and embracing the process

TV Show Outline and Story Boards:

Segments:

1. Story Book Introduction
2. Fish Out of Water Interrogation (interviews about climate change)
3. Fashion Segment
4. “Bench” Talk (climate anxiety)
5. Special/Breaking News Bulletin

Segment 1: Introduction:

- Storytime: follows a Staghorn Coral
- *Segment incorporates CHARACTER* - WENDY – Host: Coral
- Location for filming: Nathan’s Studio
- *Segment incorporates use PROP* - AVERY – Story Book

Segment 2: Fish Out of Water Interrogation

- The segment is led by an Angler Fish character who “interrogates” people about climate change

- On campus interviews
- Aims to incorporate different knowledge levels and a diversity of perspectives
 - Interviewees in mind = PhD Candidate Shayla L., master's student Nour.
 - Another thought was to reach out to the community at the Ingenious center.
- *Segment incorporates use of PROP* - PAYTON
- Setting – initially thought of doing interviews in several places on campus, however, this could be a challenge when considering desired *feel* of segment.
 - Setting will be indoors
 - staging will require dim lights like an old interrogation style film scene
 - the Angler Fish head piece will illuminate the interviewee, symbolizing shedding light on the perspectives and ideally the truth.

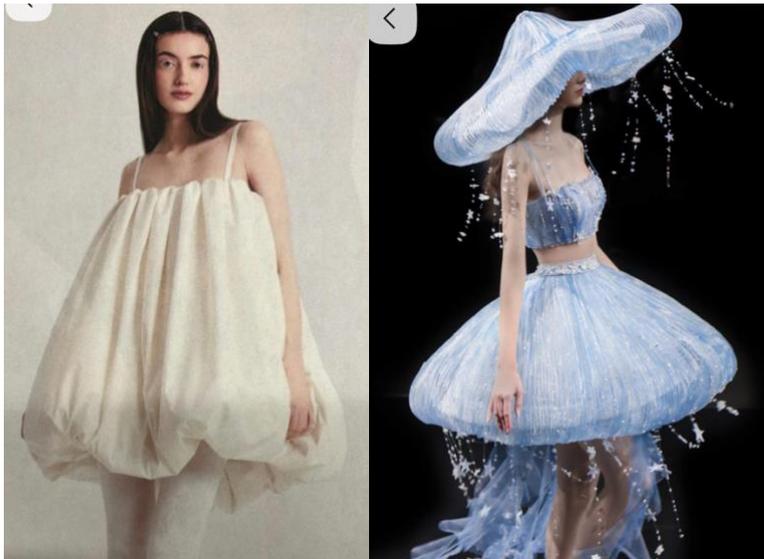


Proposed Story Board provided by Payton and PROP:



Segment 3: Fashion Segment

1. Host introduces a fashion expert onto the set
2. Educational talk: They discuss the large impact of landfills on our earth
3. Creation: reusing clothes with a simple creation (nose covering)
 - Location: experimental studio (possible green screen for background)



Lost and found: the mystery of Depastrum cyathiforme - British...

Visit >

Segment 3 Story Board provided by Lamiss:



Segment 4: “Bench” talk: Climate Anxiety

Brainstorming:

- Possible setting: Classroom setting
- OR setting could be outside on the bench in the summer (but shot in the winter... “The snow is really early this year”.... seeing the effects)
- Possible use of Indigenous Center
- Possible use of green screen
- Children could be real children - could ask them about their feelings about climate change...
BUT: Problem with using real children: privacy issues
- Alternatively, we could make sock puppets and use real children's voices (Payton’s cousins)
See example of Wendy’s sock puppet:



Current thinking on segment 4:

Talk with host and ‘children’ about feelings on climate change. Ie. climate anxiety

Location: Green Screen Kitchen

What: intimate conversation between host and children over a dinner table meal

Characters: host and children

Style: simple animation done in Procreate:

Voicing: record conversations with Payton’s cousins - use this audio recording in segment

Host and children identify anxious feelings about climate change, pause and practice ‘starfish’ breathing exercises to calm these feelings. This breathing will provide a slowing down of pace in the show.

Starfish Breathing Reference: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HQVZgpyVQ78>

Please note that the script below will be modified if real children are used for this segment.

Segment 4 Story Board provided by Wendy: Page 1

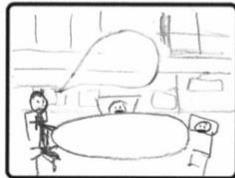


Project Name: Climate change, animal extinction
Segment 4

Page: _____ of _____

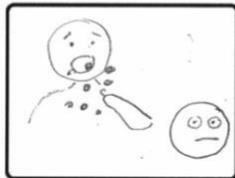
By: _____

Date: _____



Staghorn: How was your day at school today kids

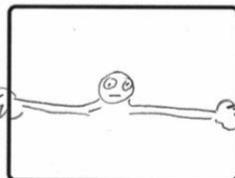
Kids: pause 😞



Kid 1: Eating
Dramatically
Kid 2 Looking
Away + Distracted



Staghorn: You seem
anxious
Kid 1: Ya - I feel
anxious
Kid 2 - Me too.



St: How big is your worry?
Kid 1: It's this big



St: Do you want to talk about it?



Kid 1: I'm worried about ocean animals dying like you Staghorn



Kid 2: Ya
Staghorn - these are our friends are dying.



St - You two have a plan for when you are worried.

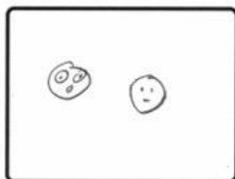
Segment 4 Story Board provided by Wendy: Page 2

Project Name: _____

Page: 2 of _____

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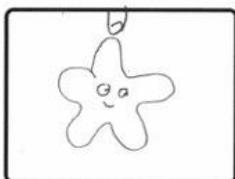
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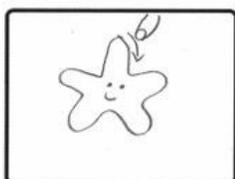
Kids: Breathing in! Will you do it with us Staghorn. We like Starfish Breathing



Staghorn: Okay! Remember when I put my finger up I breathe in.



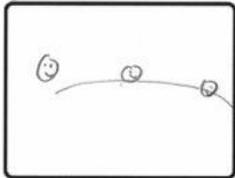
At the top, I pause



As I put my finger down, I breathe out



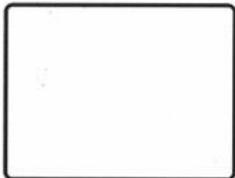
[Repetition around Starfish]



Kids: Thank Staghorn! We feel so much better, thank you



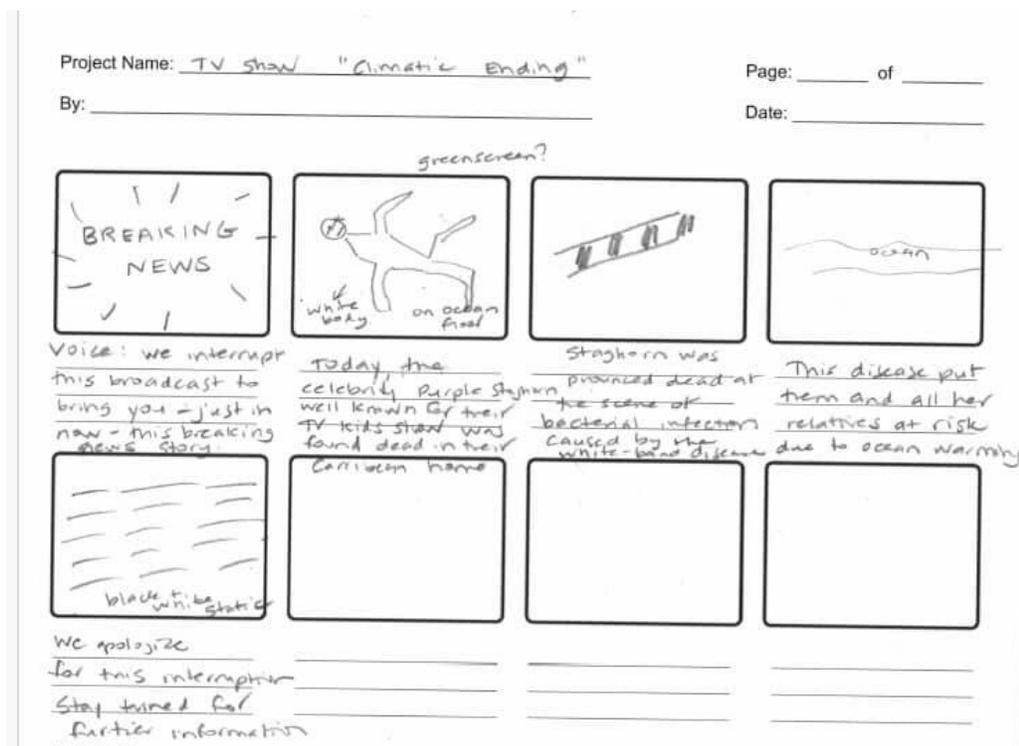
Staghorn: It's cool you remembered Starfish breathe to feel calmer.



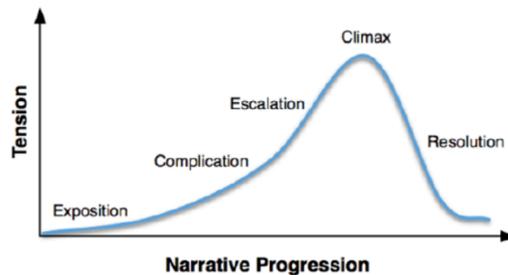
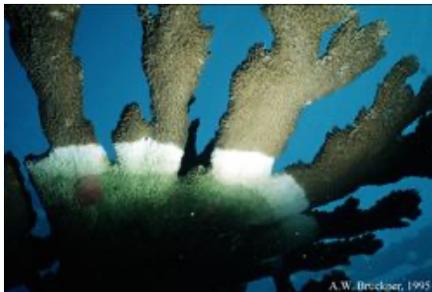
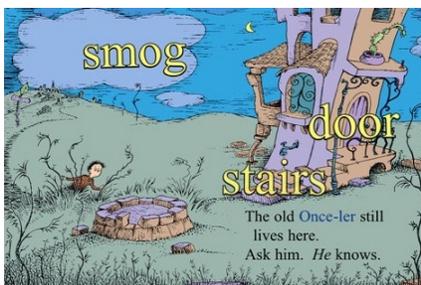
Segment 5: Special/Breaking News Bulletin

- The host Coral is susceptible to white band disease, a disease that is affecting the Purple Staghorn Coral.
- Ocean warming can intensify white band disease.
- Throughout the show there will be indicators that disease is present, like coral changing colour and fish population shrinking.
- The indicators will get more dramatic/severe over time
- The show will end with a breaking news update that the Purple Staghorn Coral has gone extinct

Proposed Ending Story board provided by Wendy



Staghorn Coral Research and Story book outline:



Staghorn Coral

- A type of stoney coral
- Resembles a stag
- Acroporid corals.

Location

- Grows in shallow fore and back reefs + patch reef
- One of the fastest growing corals
- 1cm of new skelton every year
- Reef building coral
- Home to fish nurseries and juvenile fish

White Band Disease

- White band disease (WBD)
- Symptoms are similar to the white plague
- Affect the exposed skeleton this is bad for the remaining tissue
- First reported at the end of the 70s
- Since then there has been a devastation of 95 percent of the Elkhorn and Staghorn corals- massive population decline
- The disease was the result of many infection pathogens
- Once a staghorn colony is infected it loses an average of 85 percent
- A distinct, white band of exposed skeleton appears, usually at the base of branches, and moves upward at a rate of a few millimeters to several centimeters per day
- WBD has been linked to warmer temperatures,, making its impact more severe in recent year

Zooxanthellae

- Photosynthetic symbiotic Zooxanthelele
- Inhabiting the outside tissue of the staghorn
- 90% of nutritional requirements come from this relationship
- Staghorn also have Polps... that can grab food...

StoryBook Pages

- 5 pages (moving very quickly)

Exposition

- Staghorn coral is purple (rare)
- Has shape
- Staghorn coral is in a symbiotic relationships with Zooxanthelle

Complication

- Staghorn coral has always lived in tough climates however climate change is making it harder and harder and now this disease is getting them

Escalation

- White band disease is discovered warming temperature are though to be the cause

Climax

- White band disease has wiped out the majority 95% of the coral population

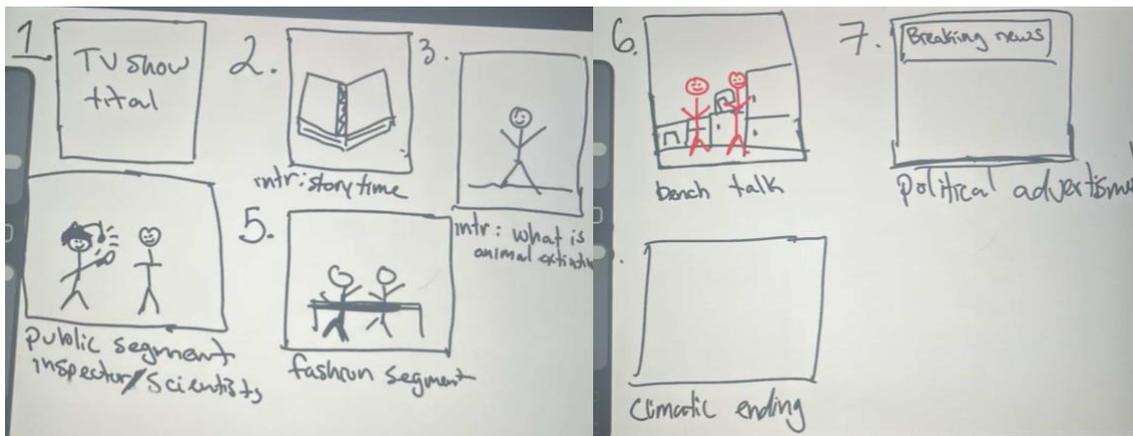
Resolution

- The symbiotic relationship allows coral to exist despite this disease

SEGMENTS SUMMARY

SEGMENTS	INVOLVED IN SEGMENT PRODUCTION	ESTIMATED LENGTH OF SEGMENT
1. Story Book Introduction	Avery, Wendy, Payton	4 minutes
2. Fish Out of Water Interrogation (interviews about climate change)	Payton, Avery, Wendy	6 minutes
3. Fashion Segment	Lamiss, Wendy	4 minutes
4. "Bench" Talk (climate anxiety)	Wendy, Payton	5 minutes
5. Special/Breaking News Bulletin	Avery, Payton, Wendy	4 minutes (shorter?)

Rough Overall Story Board provided by Lamiss:



CALANDER:

January 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 CLASS	22	23 CHARACTER PROJECT REVIEW!	24
25	26 CLASS	27	28 CLASS PRE-PRODUCTION DUE	29	30 CREATING STORYBOARDS	31

Group Meetings In Addition to Class:

- Fri.Jan.16
- Wed.Jan.21
- Fri.Jan.23
- Mon.Jan.26

Due Dates:

Wed.Jan.28 –WIP Crit outline/proposal

February 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 CLASS	3	4 CLASS	5	6 FILMING STARTS!	7
8	9 CLASS	10	11 CLASS	12	13 FILMING ???	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
<i>winter break or reading break</i>						
22	23 CLASS	24	25 CLASS CRITIQUE 2	26	27 FILMING ???	28
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Group Meetings In Addition to Class:
Ongoing Friday Meetings

Due Dates:
Wed.Feb.25 –WIP Crit

March 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 CLASS	3	4 CLASS	5	6 POST-PRODUCTION	7
8	9 CLASS	10	11 CLASS	12	13 POST-PRODUCTION	14
15	16 CLASS	17	18 CLASS	19	20 POST-PRODUCTION	21
22	23 CLASS	24	25 CLASS	26	27 POST-PRODUCTION	28 POST-PRODUCTION
29	30 FINAL CRITIQUE	31	1	2 PUBLIC SCREENING	3	4

Group Meetings In Addition to Class:
Ongoing Friday Meetings

Due Dates:
Mon.Mar.30 –Final Crit
Wed.Apr.1- DUE DATE

+APRIL 2 – public screening

Extra Notes:

Props: Avery=Story book made of plastics, Payton=Angler fish head piece

Characters: Wendy=Host (Coral), Lamiss=fashion designer

Transition Ideas:

- Coral (Wendy) grounds the episode turning segment transitions
- Water rising/flooding visual and sound effects
- Bubbles filling up frame
- Transitions are meant to be relatively quick

Main take aways from SLEDD and Yukkin artist talk:

1. Don't be afraid to try something.
2. Don't get hung up on making the most refined piece – just make it!

Feedback from group meeting with Megan: Wednesday, January 21, 2026.

- Make room for quiet moments, intentional pauses for the audience
- Don't be afraid to cut a segment(s)
 - o We followed this right away and cut a food segment that we had brainstormed
 - o Don't want to over stimulate audience and risk losing focus
- Can accessing video clips and photo images in background
- Consider using greenscreen

