Ocean Wonders: Crayon Resist Sea Creatures

Materials Needed:

- Heavy white paper (watercolor paper or cardstock works best)
- Wax crayons (especially white, but other light colors work too)
- Watercolor paints
- Paintbrush
- Cup of water
- Paper towels
- Optional: Pictures or books about sea animals

Lesson Steps:

1. Dive In! (5-10 minutes)

- Let's talk about the amazing animals that live in the ocean! What are some of your favorites, Oliver? (Show pictures or look at books if available).
- Think about fish, whales, dolphins, starfish, jellyfish, crabs, turtles, sharks, octopuses... so many cool creatures!
- Today, we're going to make some art showing these underwater wonders. We'll use a cool trick with crayons and watercolors.

2. Secret Sea Drawings (10-15 minutes)

- Take your white paper. Using a white crayon (or other light colors), draw some sea animals and maybe some seaweed, bubbles, or waves.
- Press down firmly with the crayon! This is important for the magic to work. You can draw one big animal or a few smaller ones.
- It might be hard to see your drawing since it's white crayon on white paper – like a secret message!

3. Magical Watercolors (15-20 minutes)

- Now for the magic! Get your watercolor paints, brush, and water ready.
- Choose a blue or green paint (or mix them!) for the ocean water.
- Dip your brush in water, then into the paint. Gently paint over your entire drawing.
- Watch what happens! The wax crayon *resists* the watercolor paint, meaning the paint won't stick where you drew. Your secret sea creatures will magically appear!
- You can paint the whole background with watery colors. Try adding different blues or greens.
- Let Oliver experiment with adding more water for lighter colors or less water for brighter colors.

4. Finishing Touches & Sharing (5-10 minutes)

- Once the background is painted, carefully set your artwork aside to dry.
- While it dries, let's clean up our supplies (rinse brushes, put away paints).
- Look at your finished Ocean Wonders painting! Can you point out the animals you drew? What was your favorite part of making this?
- Great job creating your own underwater scene, Oliver!