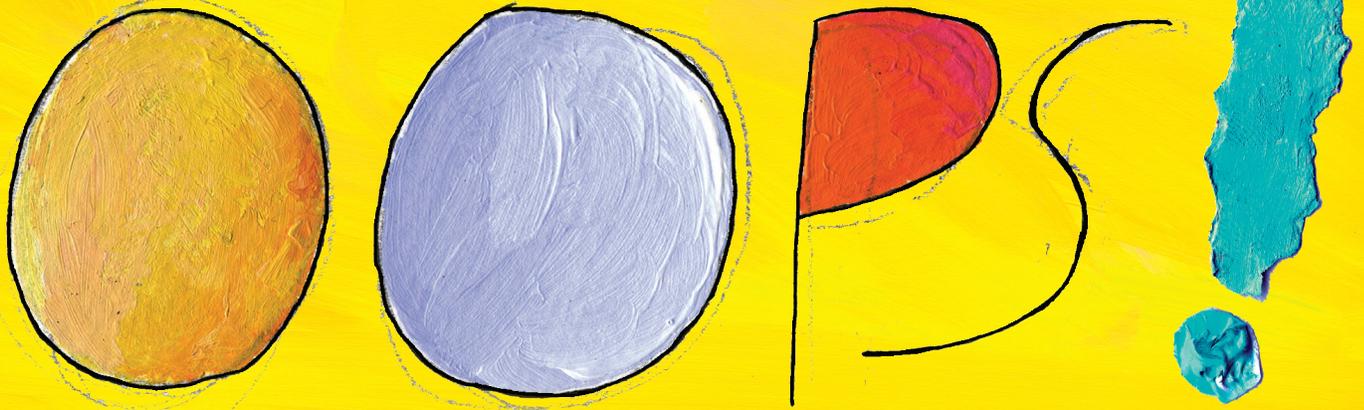


# The Educator's Guide to

# CELEBRATE



# Dear Teachers and Friends:

Welcome to the Educator's Guide for a new and very simple program called **Celebrate Oops!** Based on the bestselling book *Beautiful Oops!* by Barney Saltzberg, Celebrate Oops! is a **confidence-building and class-bonding exercise** in using accidents as teaching moments. It is our hope that it will foster a **great spirit of creativity** and **appreciation of the beautiful** in your classroom.

The guidelines are simple. Read *Beautiful Oops!* Implement the book's message in your classroom—that every mistake is an opportunity to make something beautiful. Take the Celebrate Oops! resolution and get a poster and classroom materials at:

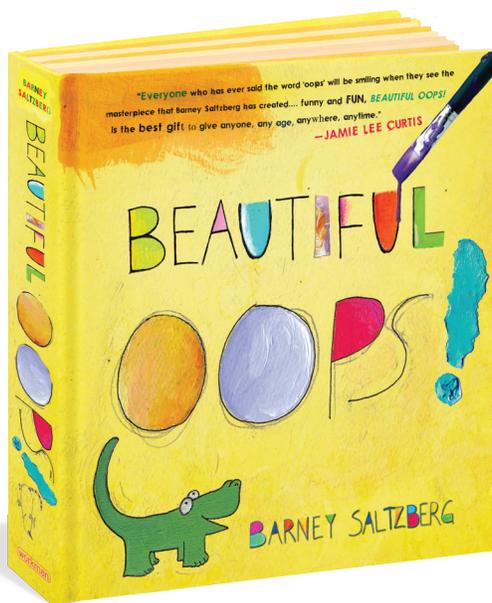
[beautifuloops.com](http://beautifuloops.com)

Why? Because Celebrate Oops! is about **imagination, curiosity, freedom,** and the **courage** to express oneself. As everyone involved in making or teaching art knows, it's about self-forgiveness and turning off that inner critic. That's an invaluable lesson in and out of the classroom.

Attached you will find several Celebrate Oops! classroom activities to help you get started. We suggest that you and the class take the **Celebrate Oops! resolution** on the first day back in school after the winter break—make it your New Year's resolution. We also encourage you to incorporate a Celebrate Oops! moment any time you want.

No need to say it, but feel free to ignore these ideas and use your own—we'd love to hear what you come up with.

**Happy OOPS!** We know you'll be happily surprised where this goes.

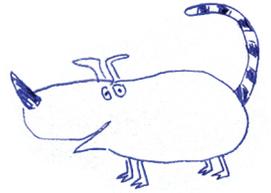


## SUPPLIES YOU MAY NEED

- glue
- tape
- colored paper or construction paper
- markers
- crayons

- watercolors
- pastels
- paint
- paintbrushes
- scissors (use with supervision)

- googly eyes
- feathers
- cutouts
- glitter
- any other art supplies you have lying around

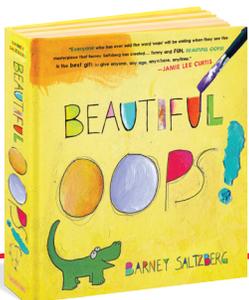


## creative OOPS: A 10-Minute Project

### INSTRUCTIONS

**Start** with an “oops”—a piece of paper that has a tear, fold, wrinkle, smear, smudge, or drip. If you don’t have any, just make some! For example, splash some liquid watercolors on paper.

**Get creative** in finding ways to transform your “oops.” Use googly eyes to make creatures. Use markers to create a new comic book character. The possibilities are endless, and the lesson is timeless—even mistakes are beautiful.



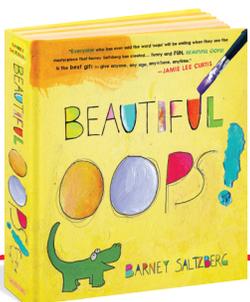
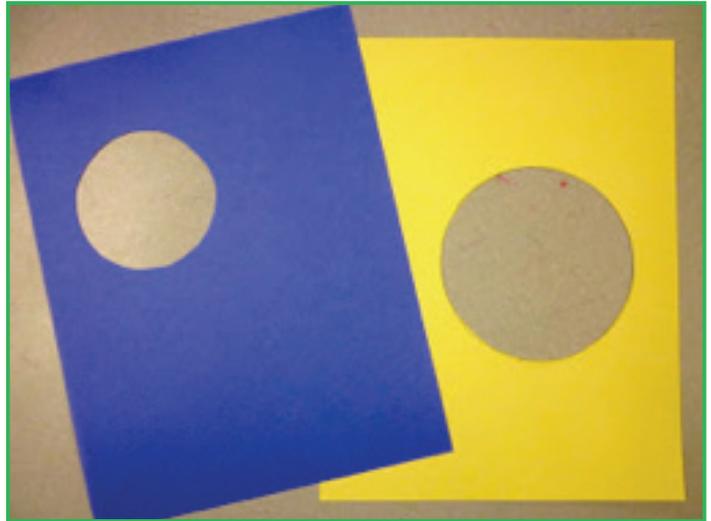
Source: <http://www.craftingconnections.net/the-blog/creative-oops-10-minute-project/>

# The Hole challenge

## INSTRUCTIONS

Let each student choose a piece of colored paper with a pre-made hole in it.

The challenge is to let kids figure out how to turn this “oops” piece of paper into a work of art. Some ideas include: folding paper to make pop-outs; placing cellophane behind the hole; coloring around the hole; making flaps, shapes, and even stickers.



Source: <http://vividlayers.blogspot.com/2012/01/beautiful-oops.html>

# Beautiful Oops Bulletin Board

## INSTRUCTIONS

**Gather scraps of paper** with tears, folds, wrinkles, smears, smudges, and drips from a scrap pile. Ask each student to pick an “oops” page. Students should then use

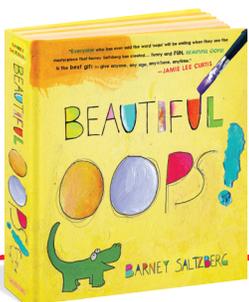
markers, colored pencils, scissors, glue, etc. to modify and create masterpieces. Hang up the works of art on a bulletin board in your classroom/hallway for all to see.



Source:

<http://artabroad.blogspot.com/2012/08/beginning-with-beautiful-oops.html>

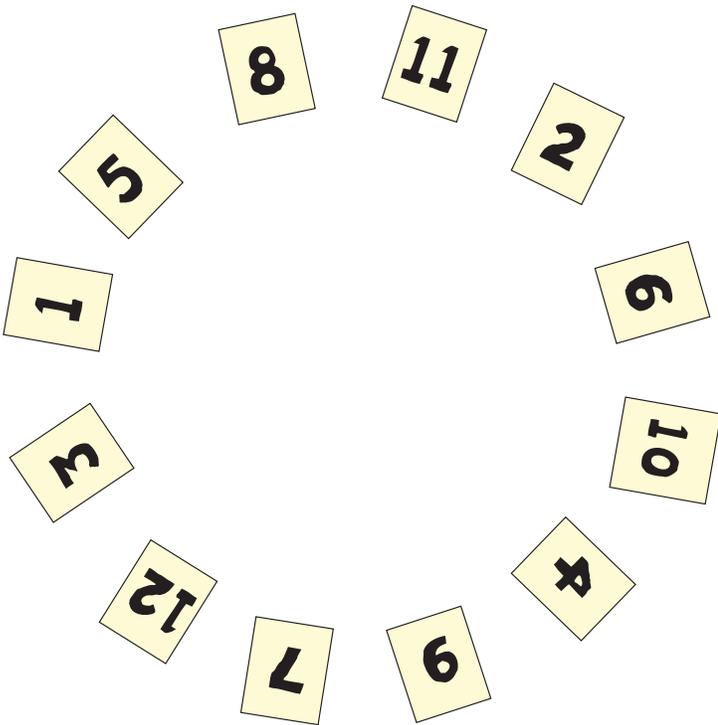
<http://artabroad.blogspot.com/2012/08/beautiful-oops-bulletin-board.html>



# Musical Oops

## INSTRUCTIONS

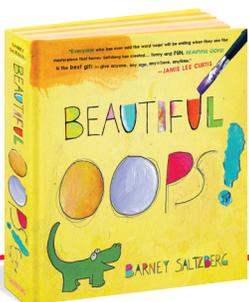
**Write numbers** on small pieces of paper—one for each student—and place in a circle on the floor. Place matching slips of paper with each number in a hat. Have the children dance around the circle to the song “Beautiful Oops!” (<http://bit.ly/1rqA4rF>). Stop the music, ask the children to stand on the number closest to them, and pull a slip of paper from the hat. The child standing on the number drawn from the hat leaves the game and chooses a prize from a basket. Continue until all of the children are out of the game, and each child has a prize.



# Pass the Drawing

## INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 Have each child scribble a mistake on purpose (a smear, a dot, a scribble) on a piece of paper.
- 2 After one minute, have everyone pass his or her drawing to the left.
- 3 The next person adds onto the drawing to turn it into something amazing.
- 4 Note: Themes may be suggested at first, like Pass the Lion, Pass the Truck, or Pass the Monster, etc.



# How Teachers Can celebrate oops, Too!

- ★ **Respond carefully** when students make mistakes. Take a breath or two before responding when a child makes a mistake. Assume the child's intentions were sincere and focus on using language to help him or her keep learning.
- ★ **Do more open-ended projects** and ask more open-ended questions. Tasks and questions with right-versus-wrong answers can lead children to focus too much on mistakes.

- ★ **Share your mistakes** and the lessons learned from them. By being transparent, we model the process of bouncing back from mistakes for students.
- ★ **Encourage children** to share and reflect on mistakes. In both social and academic settings, foster discussions in which children can talk about mistakes they made and what they learned from them.

## LEARN ABOUT "OOPS" IN SCIENCE AND INVENTING!

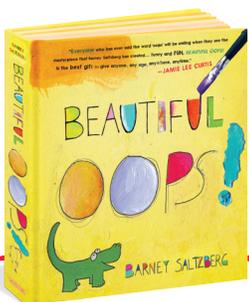
Some examples of inventions that came from mistakes include:

- **Corn Flakes**
- **Dynamite**
- **The Microwave Oven**
- **Velcro**
- **Coca-Cola**
- **Penicillin**
- **Anesthesia**

## "ON THE WAY" DISCOVERIES

NASA's mission is to explore space, but on the way, many inventions and discoveries serve other purposes, including:

- **Water Filters**
- **Cordless Tools**
- **Shoe Insoles**
- **Memory Foam**
- **Invisible Braces**

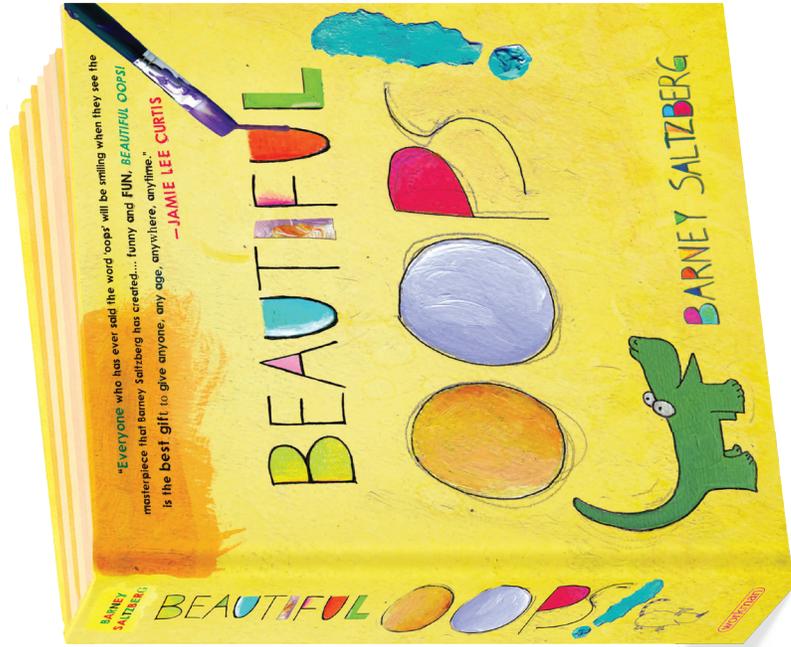


Source: [www.geniusstuff.com/blog/list110-accidental-inventions/](http://www.geniusstuff.com/blog/list110-accidental-inventions/)

Source: <http://dsc.discovery.com/tv-shows/curiosity/topics/ten-nasa-inventions.htm>

# We CELEBRATED OOPS Today!

We've taken the **CELEBRATE OOPS!** Resolution  
and have pledged to celebrate mistakes in our classroom.  
Every oops is an opportunity to make something beautiful!



**B**ased on *Beautiful Oops!* by Barney Saltzberg, **CELEBRATE OOPS!** is a way to build confidence and use accidents as moments to learn. Here are some ideas of how to foster creativity and practice **CELEBRATING OOPS!** at home:

- ★ Visit [beautifuloops.com](http://beautifuloops.com) for more information about the program, the book, and the author.
- ★ Remind students of what they've already accomplished. Children should take note of their accomplishments so they can see how far they have come without focusing on the mistakes they may have made on the way.
- ★ Embrace mistakes. Remind your children that no one is perfect. Everyone makes mistakes; it's a part of how we learn.
- ★ Encourage inventiveness!
- ★ Share these ideas with other moms, dads, coaches, and teachers that you know!

Available  
wherever books  
are sold.