This is Ms. Susan from the Shorewood Public Library. Do you know what is small, round, has lots of spikes sticking out, and is found in the ocean but cannot swim? It is the sea urchin and is often referred to as sand dollars or sea hedgehogs. The sea urchin lives on the floor of the ocean and feeds on algae, kelp, and animal matter. This week, our art will be designing an incredible, edible, sea urchin. There are close to 950 different species of this spongy, spiky animal, so you can come up with your very own species of a different colored, sea urchin friend. The urchin is really an amazing sea creature. Check out more with a library book for your “Oceans of Possibilities” summer reading.

1-Make two eyes out of white paper or stickers and place in the middle of a black piece of paper. You can use white paper but the contrast of black and white is brilliant. With a Q-tip make dots of white paint, white crayon, or chalk randomly around the eyes. Using a plastic fork dipped in another color paint, make straight-line spikes from the edge of the circle to the edge of the paper. If using marker or crayons, try to make the lines thin. You can make your sea urchin any size or make more than one. What other items can you find around the house to use to make circles and lines on the paper? Pencils, sticks, yarns, string, or maybe a comb dipped in paint. You can use colored glue also! What about glow-in-the-dark paint or glue?

2-Add cut out plastic triangles or paper for the sharpening “teeth” that help the urchin to crunch coral and rocks. You can give your urchin tube legs that help it walk along the bottom of the ocean, attach to their food supply, and are also, part of their breathing system.

Hope you are searchin’ to make an Urchin!

Ms. Susan