A STRANGE NEW WORLD.

with Jessica Wetherly



You are transported to the year 2150. The drastic effects of 100 years of climate change have altered the Earth's ecosystem. There are strange new lifeforms living here. As an artist and explorer it is your job to find and document one of these hybrid creatures that have evolved.

- 1. Find a jar this will be your aquarium to hold a suitable climate for your newly found beast.
- 2. Look around your environment and imagine this strange new creature. Gather materials they need to make a nest. These could be natural, like leaves and snail shells or artificial like cotton buds and polystyrene.
- 3. Arrange the materials in the bottom of the jar to make a nest.
- 4. Ask a friend or family member to give you a roundish object small enough to fit in your jar. This could be anything from a lychee to a gobstopper, a pebble to a ball of elastic bands.
- 5. Place the object in your nest and seal the lid for the incubation phase.
- 6. Observe the exotic egg waiting to hatch. Does it have a hard or soft shell? What colour is it? Does it camouflage with the nest material? Does it need heat or the cold to incubate? Humid or dry climate?
- 7. Imagine and describe the creature growing inside.

What is its name?

What does it look like?

Is it slimy or feathered?

What size will it grow to?

Does it have a skeleton or external armour?

How much will it weigh?

Can it fly or swim, burrow or climb?

What is its habitat?

What does it eat? Does it eat other animals or plants, plastic, toxic waste or fungi?

Does it have gills or a beak?

Is it solitary, part of a pack or swarm?

Which senses does it use? How does it percieve the world around it?

How does it move?

Does it migrate or stay close to home?

How is it important to the ecosystem?

- 8. Imagine the creature has hatched from its shell, make a drawing of the newly born creature inside the jar on the next page or make your own drawing on a separate sheet.
- 9. Draw some habitat around it, plants, fungi and food it can eat to survive its first days in the jar.
- 10. Chose a colour palette, warm, cool, pastel, neon? Use a collage materials, crayon or watercolours to colour it in and use mark making to describe textures.





