

Chihuly



Reef  
Dale Chihuly  
United States  
2001

Slither! Splash!

Did you find the eel and puffer fish  
up in the ceiling?

Have you ever explored under the water with a mask and snorkel and seen a coral reef? A coral reef is home to many sea creatures and many different types of coral. This artist created a colorful coral reef in the ceiling of the Academy to make a very special work of art. What a beautiful underwater world!

What an unusual place to find a water scene - over your head!  
Hope it doesn't leak.

Can you guess what material the artist used to create this special work of art? It is made of glass. The artist and his assistants blew air through long metal tubes to shape a glob of red hot melted glass. When the shape was complete, the object is cooled slowly. It is a hot job! Bet they want to cool off in the ocean after a day at work!

Can you guess how many objects are in the reef? The artist tells us he put 138 objects up there! Can you find the six objects that are usually not found in the ocean?

What will you name the eel and puffer fish?