Family Day this month focuses on art and technology. **Technology** is the use of knowledge to invent new devices or tools to make people’s lives easier. What are some technologies you use every day? Take a look around you and see what kind of technology you can find.

Artists often use technology to create art. New technologies have allowed artists to create things like ceramics, stained glass and photographs.

Rebecca Rutstein used technology to make “Shimmer.” This sculpture uses LED lights that change patterns when people walk past it. There are motion detectors on either side of it.

Rutstein made “Shimmer” after she joined UGA marine scientist Dr. Samantha Joye on a deep-sea expedition. She was inspired by the deep ocean and an animal called a siphonophore [sy-FON-uh-for] that lives there. A siphonophore has thin, clear tentacles that flash when it is disturbed.

Rutstein created art inspired by the data the scientists were collecting. She wants people to love the ocean and the beauty there so we will help protect it.
“Shimmer” uses LED lights to capture the beauty of the natural world. Now it is your turn to use technology to make a flower that lights up.

You’ll need the following supplies included in the art kit (or found at home):

- LED light coin cell
- battery
- water
- clothespin
- coffee filter
- water-soluble markers
- coin cell battery
- clothespin

Once you’re finished, share with us! Tag @georgiamuseum

To make your LED circuit flower:

1. Draw on the coffee filter with the markers.
2. Drop or spray water onto the filter to make the colors spread.
3. When the filter is dry, cut a small hole in the center.
4. Put the clothespin tip through the hole.
5. Place the short wire of the LED light on the grooved side of the coin cell battery and the long wire on the flat side of the battery.
6. Clamp the wires to the battery with the clothespin.
7. Wrap the filter in place around the clothespin using the wire.

TIP: If the LED light does not turn on, try shifting the wires to create a better connection.

We’d love your feedback! Please take a few minutes to complete a survey about this program.

Family Day art kits are sponsored by Heyward Allen Motor Co., Inc., Heyward Allen Toyota and the Friends of the Georgia Museum of Art.