When the spectacular Yellow Submarine debuted in 1968, it was instantly recognized as a landmark film that took animation beyond anything seen before. Together with LEGO® fan designer Kevin Szeto, we are proud to present our version of the iconic submersible as our 15th product in the LEGO Ideas series.
The Yellow Submarine began its voyage when the producers of the American animated Beatles TV series approached The Beatles with an idea for a full-length feature. From the very beginning, the filmmakers wanted the feature to have a fresh, highly stylized look inspired by the modern art styles of the time.

The animated film they created was a fantasy tale full of adventure, music and colorful characters. On one side stands the evil Chief Blue Meanie, his henchman Max and the Blue Meanie Army that also includes the Apple Bonkers, Evil Clowns and Snapping Turks. On the other, John, Paul, George and Ringo come together with the strange, riddle-speaking Jeremy Hillary Boob, Ph. D and the old sailor, Captain Fred.

At the center of the adventure is the remarkable Yellow Submarine, the magical craft that carries the Beatles beneath the waves from Liverpool, across wondrous seas to the shores of Pepperland.

When the film premiered in London on July 17th, 1968, the colorful, visual feast was met with widespread critical acclaim and is still seen as a groundbreaking piece of animation almost half a century later.
Designing the Yellow Submarine allowed Kevin Szeto to indulge two of his passions: The Beatles and designing with LEGO® bricks.

“As an amateur musician and songwriter, I have always been drawn to the music of the Beatles. The Yellow Submarine is bright, fun, and colorful, which also makes it a good subject to translate into LEGO form.”

“I completed the main structure of the Yellow Submarine over one weekend, but I probably spent another half dozen weeknights tweaking details here and there. I would estimate I spent about 25 - 30 hours designing and building the initial model.”

“When the model hit 10,000 supporters on LEGO Ideas, I was, of course, totally ecstatic. To be just one of the thousands of contributors to this platform has been a fun and rewarding experience.”
LEGO® Designer Justin Ramsden was also a fan of the movie and was delighted to be a part of this LEGO Ideas project.

“I watched the film when I was younger and was really inspired by how it oozed so much imagination – comparable to how I view LEGO elements. I’m also a massive fan of The Beatles, having grown up with their music all my life, so to see The Beatles in LEGO form is a dream come true.”

“Kevin did a great job with his model, and many of the ideas and details could be used in the final set, but as a LEGO designer I had to ensure that the final version offered an enjoyable and stable LEGO building experience.”

“There are many new elements included within the model (and old elements in new colors); two of my favorites are the 2x3 tile and the ¼ circle tile. As a LEGO designer I’ve wanted these elements for ages, so I’m pleased to finally get my hands on them!”
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