

# Crayola.com Inspiring Ideas

## What Do We See... Under the Sea?



## Crayola Supplies

- Model Magic®
- Washable Markers
- Washable Kid's Paint
- School Glue (optional)
- Scissors (optional)

## Other Supplies

- paper towels
- recycled boxes
- clear plastic wrap
- recycled shoe box
- toothpicks - wooden
- construction paper
- clear adhesive tape
- small shells & stones (optional)

## Why?

Dioramas are creative and appealing ways for kids to express their ideas and apply their knowledge. Developing three-dimensional displays flexes their creative and academic muscles.

## How?

1. Stand a recycled shoe box on its side, with the opening facing you. Have an adult poke small holes in the top of the box for as many sea creatures as you plan to make. Paint the inside of the box in ocean colors to create the background for your underwater scene.
2. While the paint is drying, use Crayola® Model Magic® to create sea creatures. Shape an octopus, sharks, a whale, or whatever you might see under the sea!
3. With a toothpick, poke the ends of short strings into the tops of your sea creatures, then pinch the moist modeling compound closed, so you can hang your creature later.
4. Decorate and add features to dry sea creatures with Crayola® Washable Markers.

5. Draw plant life and other parts of the ocean environment with markers on the inside of the box. Or cut them out of construction paper with Crayola® Scissors. Glue on with Crayola® School Glue. Add sand, shells, and pebbles for a realistic view, if you have them.

6. To hang your creatures, tie the end of the string that is sticking out of the creature to a toothpick and thread it through the hole in the top of the box.

7. Cut plastic wrap to fit over the open side of the box. Tape it to the sides. Now your creatures look like they're floating in the ocean!

## When and Where Suggestions?

- "We made this diorama after visiting an aquarium. The kids had so many ideas!" Martha N. mother of 7- and 10-year-olds.
- "My children enjoy saving the dioramas they create. They stack the shoe boxes on a shelf so they can look right inside them." Andreas, dad with kids ages 9 and 11.

## Interesting Information

The octopus lives on the bottom of the sea. During the day, an octopus hides, and then comes out at night to hunt. An octopus swims headfirst, and can give itself a burst of speed by expelling water through a funnel shape at the end of its mantle. If an octopus comes upon an enemy, it releases a cloud of black ink. Did you know that the first ink for writing was made from the pigment in an octopus's ink sac?

## Safety Guidelines

Safety guidelines recommend this art project is suitable for children age 4 years and older. Close adult supervision is required to ensure children's safety.

ATTENTION: The cutting edges of scissors are sharp and care should be taken whenever cutting or handling. Adult supervision is recommended with all children.

Model Magic® and other modeling compounds: Keep finished product away from open flame. Do not mold into candleholders or other like items for use around flame. Do not put in oven, microwave, or kiln.

WARNING: CHOKING HAZARD-Small parts. Not for children younger than 3 years.

## Related Books

My Visit to the Aquarium. by Alike

Swimmy. by Leo Lionni

The Magic Schoolbus on the Ocean Floor. by Joanna Cole

What Do You See Under the Sea? by Bobbie D. Kalman

## Related Videos

20,000 Leagues Under the Sea (Animated)

The Little Mermaid.

The Little Mermaid 2: Return to the Sea.

## Related Software

Magic School Bus Explores the Oceans (for Windows).

Disney's Little Mermaid 2: Return to the Sea

## Related Games

Sea Monkeys Ocean of Light

Under the Sea Origami

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