

Fishy Fun Sheet: Diorama - Virtual Aquarium

Region

North Coast, Gascoyne Coast, West Coast, South Coast, Indian Ocean Territories

Summary

Have you ever wanted to keep your own aquarium but don't want the hassle and expense of feeding the animals and cleaning the tank?

VIRTUAL AQUARIUMS

Have you ever wanted to keep your own aquarium but don't want the hassle and expense of feeding the animals and cleaning the tank?

Well, how about creating your own 3D miniature scene (or diorama) of a coral reef or seagrass habitat, which will stand the test of time!

Materials:

- Cardboard box (e.g. shoe box or slightly larger);
- A print out of your chosen habitat (i.e. coral reef or seagrass);
- Paper and/or card (e.g. cereal box);
- Crayons, pencils and/or markers;
- Tape;
- Thread;
- Glue; and
- Scissors.

Materials (Optional):

- Craft supplies e.g. glitter, cellophane, pipe cleaners; and
- Small marine plastic toys (or figurines)



Sample of coral reef template

Instructions:

1. Find a cardboard box at least the size of a shoe box.
 2. Choose your habitat scene (coral reef or seagrass) and print the template. *TIP: It's best to use card for this as paper can be a little flimsy. If you don't have any card, get an old cereal box or similar, glue your printed paper template to the card (so your creatures don't bend).*
 3. Decorate the inside of your box using crayons, pencils, markers, glitter and cellophane to create the backdrop for your underwater scene. *TIP: Blue and green cellophane gives a great underwater effect.*
 4. Decorate and cut out plants and animals from the template and attach them to the inside of the box.
 - Paste rocks, coral, seaweed and seagrass to the base of the box with glue or tape, using the tab at the base of the object.
 - Hang fish, turtle, shark and other animals to the roof of the box using tape and thread.
- TIPS:**
- You may also like to draw and decorate your own plants and animals!
 - Use additional craft supplies (if available) to decorate. For example: pipe cleaners make great seaweed.
 - Small plastic toys or figurines make a great addition to your scene.
5. Put your virtual aquarium on display for everyone to enjoy.

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