

BUILD YOUR OWN

Sea plastics diorama

Suitable for ages: 4 years and up

120 MINUTES 

Create a sea diorama using plastic and single-use packaging that you would normally throw away.

WE RECOMMEND USING

- A cardboard box (e.g. shoe box)
- Drink bottles & lids
- Plastic straws
- Plastic bags
- Plastic packaging
- String
- Sticky tape
- Paints
- Paint brushes
- Egg carton
- Stanley knife



INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 To create the top of your diorama, ask an adult to remove one of the sides of your box.
Tips: Remove one of the widest sides (see image). Use sticky tape to hold the remaining sides in place if your box starts to fall apart. If the top of your box has any flaps, cut these off with the knife.
- 2 To create your diorama's ocean background, paint the interior of the box blue except for the base (this will become your ocean floor).
- 3 To create the ocean floor, paint the base a sandy colour.
- 4 While the paint is drying, use your recycled plastic items to create different marine animals (e.g. octopus, jellyfish, fish, sharks, whales, turtles, dolphins) and arrange them in the box.
- 5 Using string and sticky tape, suspend your marine animals from the top of your diorama so they look like they are swimming.
- 6 Decorate the sea floor with rocks and shells or use recycled material to create plantlife (e.g. coral and seaweed).

DID YOU KNOW?

Each year, Australians buy 15 billion plastic bottles. After heavy rain, these plastic bottles (including the straws we often use to drink from them) can end up in the ocean where they entangle sea life. The ocean also causes plastic packaging to break down into microplastics, which are ingested by sea life. Marine animals cannot properly digest microplastics. It fills up their stomach and can lead to starvation.

