

SEASIDE DIORAMA

Use the instructions below to create a seaside scene for children to learn about the seaside habitat and the creatures that inhabit it.

You will need:

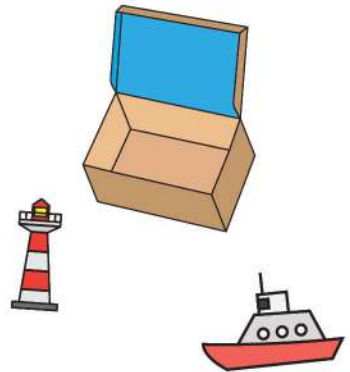
- Shoebox
- Paints
- Paintbrushes
- Glue
- Scissors
- Sand
- Blue Cellophane or Plastic Wrap
- Craft Clay or Playdough
- Shells, pebbles, sticks, and seaweed (real or artificial)
- Construction Paper or Cardboard for sun, clouds, or a backdrop.

Optional Extras: Cotton balls for clouds, fabric scraps for towels or beach umbrellas, small sticks for flags or signs.

Instructions:

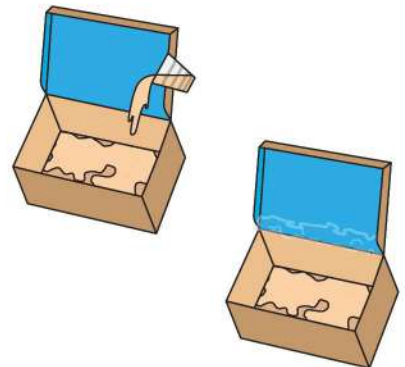
1 PREPARE THE BOX:

- Paint the inside of the shoebox. Use blue for the upper part to represent the sky and tan or beige for the lower part to represent sand. Allow it to dry completely.
- If desired, create a backdrop with construction paper. You might draw or paint additional elements like a distant lighthouse, birds in the sky, or boats on the water.



2 CREATE THE BEACH AND WATER:

- Spread glue generously over the bottom part of the box where the sand will be. Sprinkle sand over the glue and shake off the excess. Let it dry.
- For the water, cut a piece of blue cellophane or plastic wrap and glue it to one side of the box, over the painted blue area to give a shimmering water effect.



Understands that ecosystems are unique as are the animals which inhabit them.



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Instructions:

3 MAKE AND PLACE THE ANIMALS:

- Use craft clay or playdough to mould small animals mentioned in the book, like crabs, turtles, and seals. Paint them if needed and allow them to dry.
- Arrange these models on the sand or near the water in the diorama.



4 ADD NATURAL AND ADDITIONAL DECORATIVE ELEMENTS:

- Place natural materials such as pebbles, shells, and sticks to enhance the realism of the beach scene.
- You can add crafted items like a small beach umbrella made from paper and a toothpick, or flags and signs on small sticks.



5 FINAL TOUCHES:

- If using, place cotton balls stretched out as clouds in the sky area or use them to simulate waves breaking on the shore.
- You might also add small figures of people, a towel made from a small piece of fabric, or any other creative details that enhance the theme of the diorama.



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