

3-D FISH BOWL CRAFTS

AGES

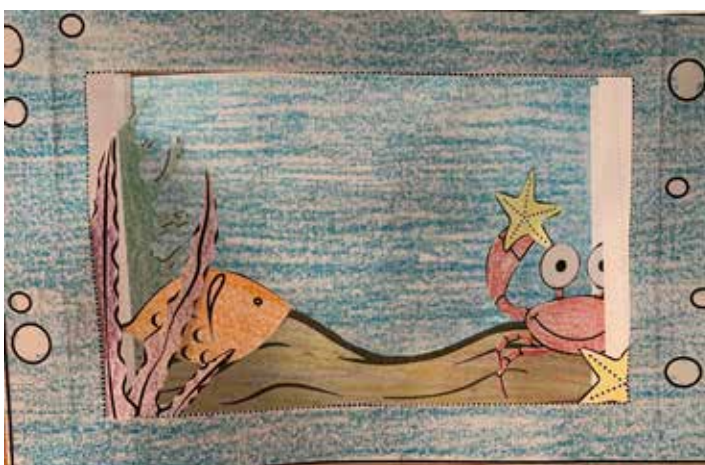
Children 6+ years

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

In the ocean or in aquariums, let's talk about fish! Two crafts—an accordion book and a fish tank—are provided for older and younger children, respectively. Adjust the pictures or create new silhouettes to match any ocean theme. Suggested runtime: 45–60 min.



Amanda Raiche of Edith B. Siegrist Vermillion Public Library Vermillion, SD



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Image source: Heather Oates of Ligonier Valley Library, Ligonier, PA

ADAPTATION:

If participants have trouble cutting out the printed images (because of age or ability), have them cut a circle around the image and color the negative space within the circle.

MATERIALS AND PREPARATION

Under the Sea Accordion Book

Materials: Printables (cardstock recommended but plain paper will work), scissors, glue, pencils/crayons/markers

Optional: Craft sticks, sandpaper or other textured material, magazines for children to cut out ocean images, misc. craft materials for plant or ocean life (tissue paper, construction paper, buttons, sequins, chenille stems, ribbons, etc.), ocean-themed stickers or stamps, watercolors or pastels, cardboard to back the project if using plain paper



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Instructions:

- Print all 3 pages for each participant.
- Color and cut out all of the elements.
- Fold both of the rectangles on the dotted lines (accordion-style).
- Cut out the creatures or plants that you would like to add to your ocean.
- Once all pieces are cut out and the sides are folded, glue one of the accordion sides to the left side of the background (top to bottom). Make sure the colored side is facing in toward your ocean scene. Glue the other accordion side to the right side of the ocean background, again, taking care to face the colored side toward the ocean scene.
- To add the front frame, put glue on the other ends of the accordion sides and attach the left and right side of the frame.
- The creatures and plants can now be added to your scene. Objects with tabs appear to be suspended in the water; tabs can be removed or added to pieces however the children wish.
- Decide where you would like to put your land pieces and glue the tab behind one of the folds of the accordion sides. Note: These land pieces can easily be flipped to the other side or cut into a different shape.
- Add any ocean creatures or plant life to the scene by gluing directly to the background, land pieces, or by gluing the tabs off the accordion sides.

TIP:

You can also paste sea creature silhouettes onto the end of popsicle sticks.

Cut small slits in the accordion and move the popsicle sticks for interactive dioramas.

Paper Plate Aquariums

Materials:

- Blue paper plates (two per aquarium)
- Silhouettes on cardstock (see Printables)
- Scissors
- Tacky glue
- Kix cereal, felt balls, or small pom-poms
- Crayons and markers
- Stapler (optional)
- Googly eyes (optional)

Print the fish and sea life silhouettes onto colored cardstock. For younger children, cut out the fish and sea life silhouettes before the program, and prepare the aquarium lids by cutting out the center of paper plates (one per aquarium). Older children may do the cutting themselves.

Assembly:

- Glue sea life silhouettes to the blue side of one paper plate.
- Add googly eyes as desired.
- Glue cereal to the bottom half of the same plate.
- Let children color with crayons or markers as desired.
- With white side facing out, glue or staple the plate with the center cut out to the decorated plate.

UNIQUE SPACE AND/OR PERSONNEL NEEDS

Solo-librarian friendly.

RESOURCES

Web

Under the sea tunnel book from *Easy Peasy and Fun*:
<https://bit.ly/3oWL4DN>

Paper plate aquarium idea from *Crafts by Amanda*: <https://bit.ly/34rcAjo>

Ocean coloring pages from *Easy Peasy and Fun*: <https://bit.ly/2QVXP50>

Sea animal paper plate aquariums from *Pichea Place*:
<https://bit.ly/34qvHdn>

Books

Non-fiction

Dolphins on the Sand (2008) by Jim Arnosky (children's)

The Sea Book (2019) by Charlotte Milner (children's)

Ocean Animals and their Ecosystems (2020) by Dr. Erica Colón (children's)

Fiction

Narwhal and Jelly (2016–2021) by Ben Clanton (children's)

Mermaid Tales series (2012–2021) by Debbie Dadey (children's)

Picture Books

Secret Seahorse (2005) by Stella Blackstone (children's)

Whale in a Fishbowl (2018) by Troy Howell and Richard Jones

Explore the Shore (Curious Kids) (2020) by Jonny Marx and Christiane Engel (children's)

Ocean: A Peek-Through Picture Book (2019) by Britta Teckentrup (children's)

Over in the Ocean (2006) by Marianne Berkes and Jeanette Canyon (children's)

Swimmy (1963) by Leo Lionni (children's)

Printables

Under the Sea Accordion Cover Template

Under the Sea Accordion Fold Template

Under the Sea Accordion Creatures Template

More Fish Silhouettes

Aquarium Coloring Sheet

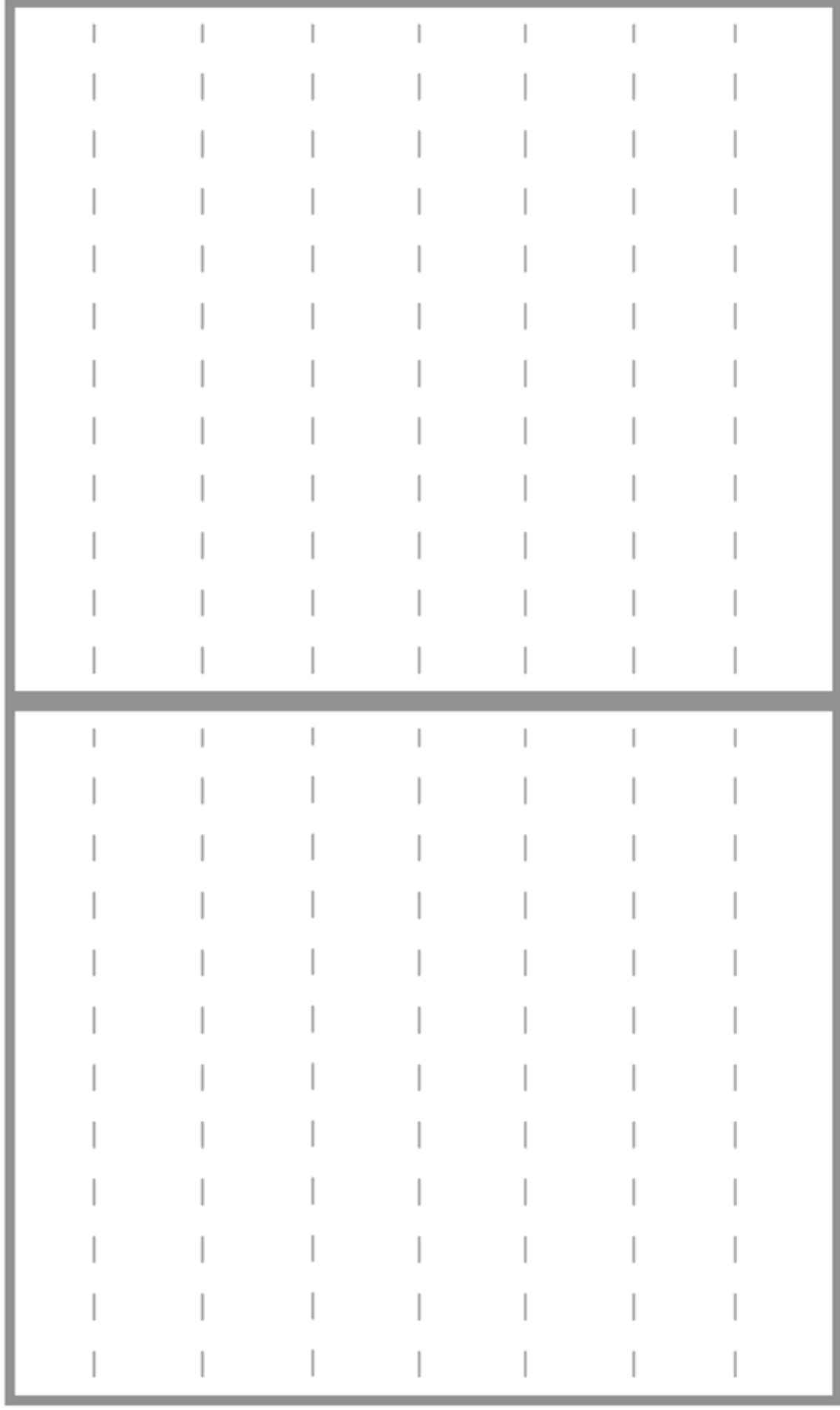
SOURCE:

All accordion book templates courtesy of Amanda Raiche, Edith B. Siegrist Vermillion Public Library, Vermillion, SD.



Cut this center square out to create a frame





Cut on solid lines and fold (accordion-style) on dotted lines.

