

CRAFT

JELLYFISH LANTERNS

AGES

Teens

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Show teens how to bring the wonder of the ocean into their décor by making jellyfish lanterns! Create large lanterns for a library reading space and/or small ones for cool night lights that teens can take home. Blowfish lanterns are another fun variation of this craft. Suggested runtime: 45 min.

For more complex, STEAM-oriented LED light programs, see Eurekus.org for kits.



Image source: Angela German of West Baton Rouge Parish Library, Port Allen, LA

MATERIALS AND PREPARATION

Materials:

- Round paper lanterns (Oriental Trading), any color, with or without light sockets
- LED lights, battery-operated tea lights, or fairy lights (Amazon) (optional)
- Tissue paper, assorted colors
- Streamer paper, assorted colors
- Hot glue, fishing line, or wire to attach the LED lights
- Ribbon, stringed beads, or feathers for volume (optional)

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Assembly:

- Cut spirals of tissue paper for a spiral effect.
- Cut streamer paper to similar lengths.
- Fold spirals and streamers in half and glue the middle parts to the lantern. Attach roughly 2–3 inches from the bottom, all the way around.
- Once dry, attach the tea lights with a wire/fishing line inside the lantern. If using fairy lights, attach with hot glue or fishing line. You can dangle the fairy lights like tentacles or coil them inside the lantern.

UNIQUE SPACE AND/OR PERSONNEL NEEDS

Add one extra volunteer or staff member for large groups.

RESOURCES

Web

Jellyfish Lantern craft from *Blog a la Cart*: <https://bit.ly/2RU9WzY>

“How to Make Jellyfish Paper Lantern” from *Paper Lanterns Store*: <https://bit.ly/3umrvpG>

Books

Fiction

The Thing About Jellyfish (2017) by Ali Benjamin (YA)

Jelly (2021) by Clare Rees (YA)

Non-fiction

Wisdom from a Humble Jellyfish: And Other Self-Care Rituals from Nature (2020) by Rani Shah (YA)

Printables

Jellyfish Coloring Sheet

