

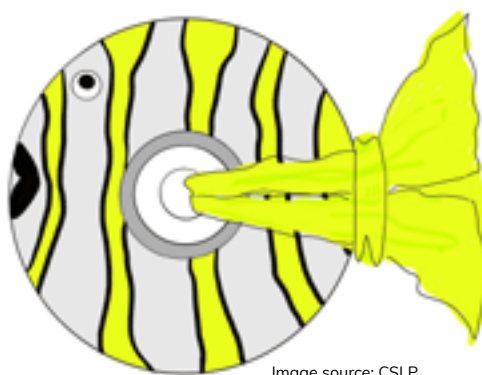
MARINE BIOLOGIST CRAFTS

AGES

Children 4–6 years

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Shark teeth, snorkel gear, and a secret message in a bottle! Start this program with any ocean-themed books or a video, such as the five-minute “I Want to Be a Marine Biologist” on YouTube. Craft options include a snorkel mask, a shiny CD fish (or shark teeth), a simple origami turtle, a cut-and-glue shark, and a message-in-a-bottle coloring sheet. Suggested runtime: 90–120 minutes



TIP:

For craft ideas for older children, try ocean zones in a jar (<https://bit.ly/2yU5qle>) or ocean snow globes (<https://bit.ly/2YZnyLA> and <https://bit.ly/2xXuWvZ>).

MATERIALS AND PREPARATION

Snorkel Mask

You will need:

- Snorkel mask template (see Resources)
- Cardstock
- Markers and/or stickers
- Blue cellophane
- Construction paper and tape
- Elastic

Cut the snorkel masks out of cardstock before the program, or let children do this step themselves (remember to cut out the eyeholes!). Roll one piece of construction paper length-wise and tape the circumference to hold it in the shape of a breathing tube. Each child decorates their mask, then tapes a piece of blue cellophane to the back for the “goggles.” Use elastic for the head straps; to attach the breathing tube, poke two pen holes in the tube, then run the elastic through them before tying the elastic to both sides of the mask.

CRAFT

Shiny CD Fish

You will need:

- CDs
- Permanent markers
- Googly eyes (optional)
- Tissue paper or construction paper

Repurpose old CDs to make shiny fish or shark teeth. To make shiny shark teeth, draw triangles around the outsider perimeter of the CD. Then fill in the negative space (not the teeth!) with a dark color. For the fish, draw scales or stripes, and loop strips of tissue paper through the center hole for a tail and fins.

Cut-and-Glue Shark

You will need:

- Shark template (see Resources)
- Cardstock
- Coloring supplies
- Scissors and glue

For cutting practice, children cut out the pieces themselves and glue them onto the cardstock.

Simple Origami Turtle

You will need:

- Origami instructions (see Resources)
- Origami or printer paper
- Glue and markers, stickers, or sequins (optional)

This is preschool-friendly origami that only requires two folds. Embellishments are optional but recommended, especially if you do not provide colorful origami paper.

Message-in-a-Bottle Coloring Sheet

You will need:

- Coloring sheets (see Resources)
- Crayons

TIP:

Even if children cut out their own cut-and-glue sharks, you still might want to precut all the little teeth beforehand.

TIP:

To expand the message-in-a-bottle theme, ask children to imagine what might be written in a secret message. Or place a secret message in a real bottle to read at the end of the program.

CRAFT

UNIQUE SPACE AND PERSONNEL NEEDS

For large groups or to run more than one craft at a time, you will need need one additional staff member or volunteer per station.

RESOURCES

Videos

"I Want to Be a Marine Biologist!": <https://bit.ly/361cwXO>

Earth Unplugged: <https://bit.ly/2zu00E3>

SciAll.org: <https://bit.ly/3cs3o0H>

Picture Books

Chomp: A Shark Romp (2019) by Michael Paul (NF)

Don't Worry, Little Crab (2020) by Chris Haughton

The Heart of a Whale (2020) by Anna Pignataro

Here Comes Ocean (2020) by Meg Fleming

The Ocean in Your Bathtub (2020) by Seth Fishman (NF)

Over in the Ocean in a Coral Reef (2004) by Marianne Berkes

Peppa Pig Visits the Great Barrier Reef (2017)

Turtle Tug to the Rescue (2017) by Michael Slack

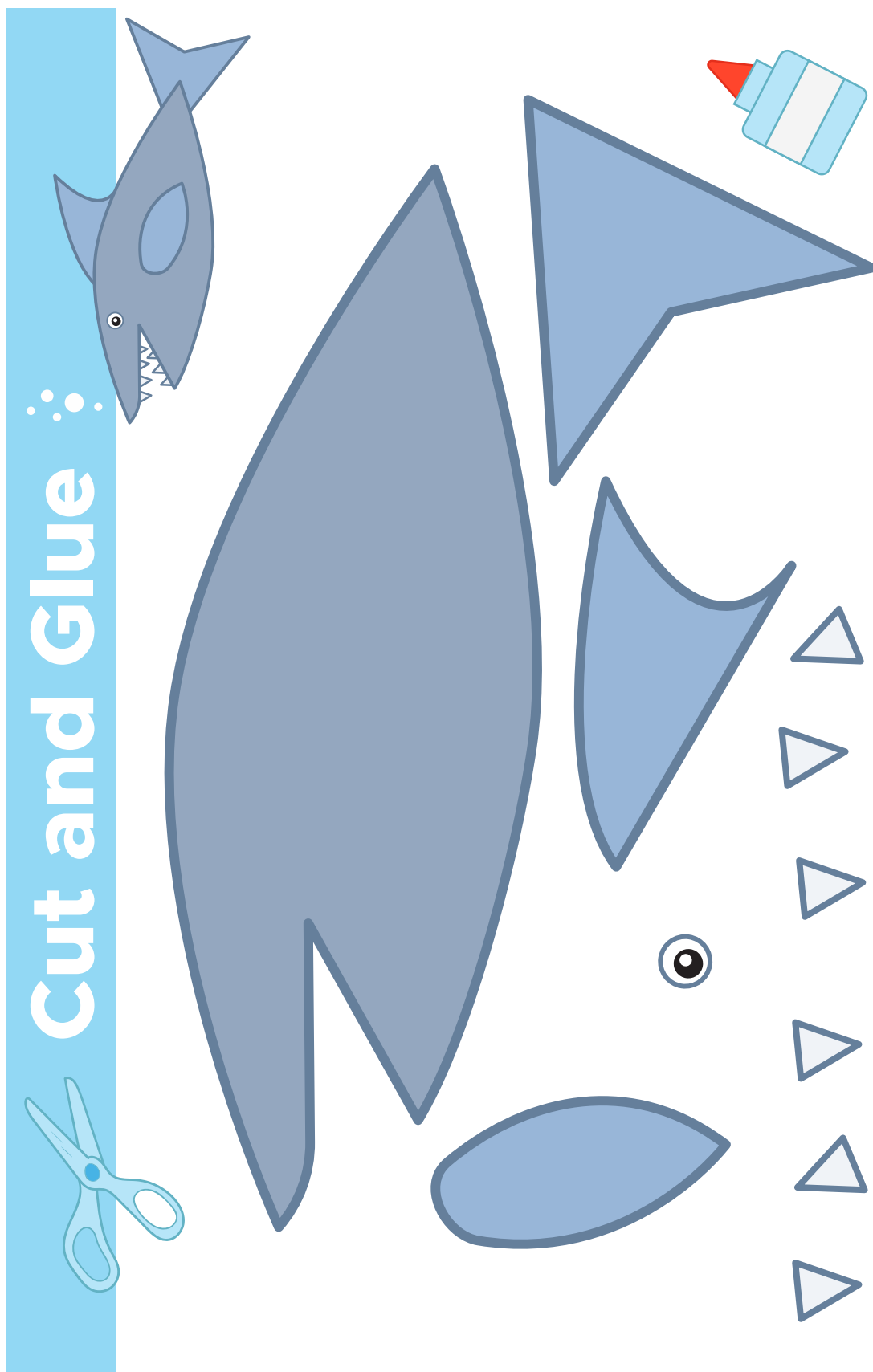
TIP:

For ocean fiction for older children, see Chapter 06: Interactive Movie: Finding Nemo.

Snorkel Mask Template

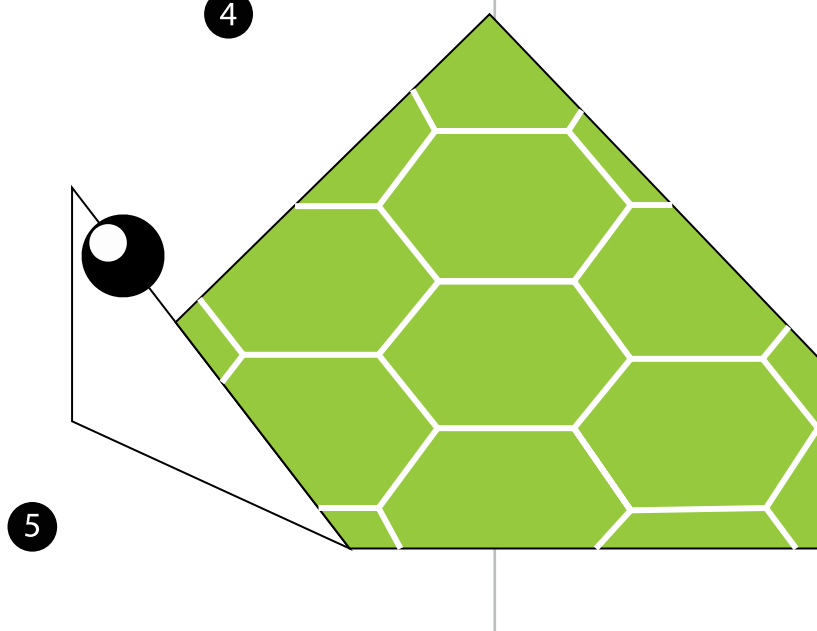
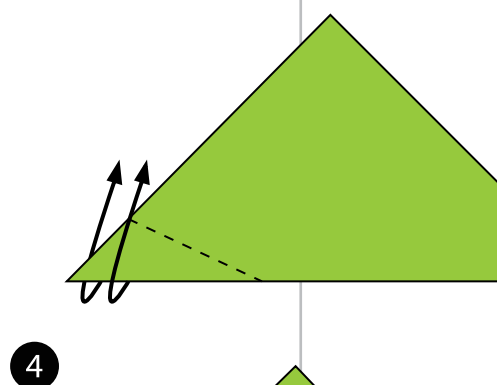
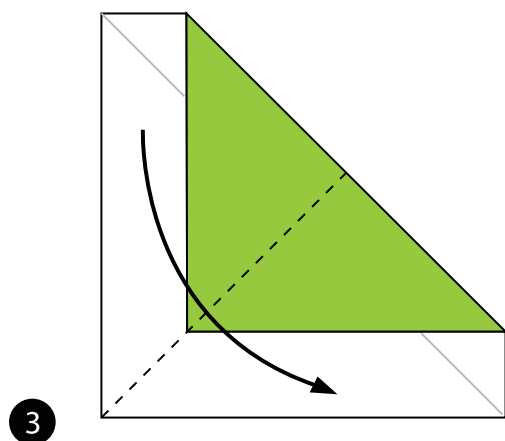
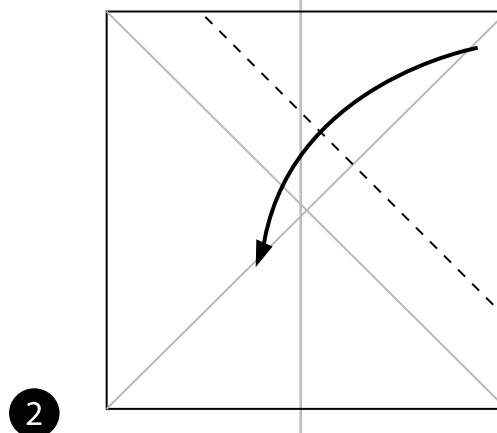
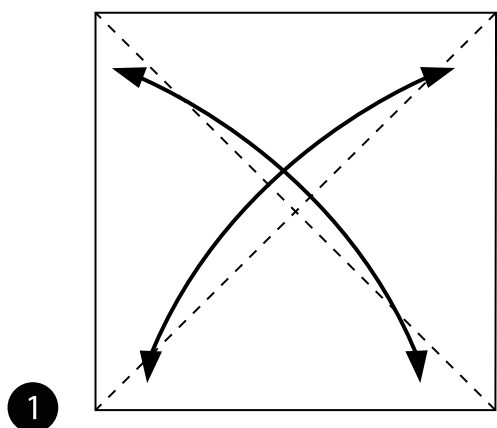


Cut and
Glue Shark



PRINTABLE

Simple Turtle Origami



A Turtle

PRINTABLE

Message in a Bottle Coloring Sheet

