

SHARK LADY SUNCATCHER

AGES

Children 6+ years

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

An elementary school-age program that introduces Eugenie Clark, a woman who made a career out of studying sharks. Run a short shark quiz game, then show short YouTube videos or read a picture book. The suncatcher craft is simple and made more so by precutting the tissue paper squares and silhouettes for younger children. Suggested runtime: 45 minutes.



Image source: Azita Frattarelli of Riverview Veterans Memorial Library, Riverview, MI

TIP:

See also Shark Week! on page 256 one for more shark-themed games and crafts.

MATERIALS AND PREPARATION

Materials:

- Laminating sheets
- Tissue paper squares in different shades of blue and white
- Black construction paper
- Scissors
- Shark and diver silhouettes (see Printables)

Preparation:

- If you plan to show videos, you'll also need a laptop/projector.
- For younger children, precut tissue paper squares and shark/diver silhouettes.

To assemble:

- Using the shark templates provided, children trace shark shapes onto black construction paper using pencils or white crayons. Cut them out.
- For each child, lay down one of the sheets of film sticky side up. They fill in the entire background with squares or torn bits of tissue paper. A few different colors make for a nice contrast.
- Place silhouettes on the tissue paper background. No need to worry about them sticking as the second sheet of film will seal them in place.
- When the picture feels complete, lay another piece of film on top, sticky side down. This will seal the picture.
- Use a hole punch to make two holes in the top of the suncatcher and string through a piece of ribbon for hanging.

UNIQUE SPACE AND/OR PERSONNEL NEEDS

Solo-librarian friendly.

RESOURCES

Web

Shark suncatcher tutorial from *Buggy and Buddy*: <https://bit.ly/3ut0vom>

Shark quiz from *Britannica*: <https://bit.ly/3bZfY9n>

Article about Eugenie Clark from *Smithsonian*: <https://s.si.edu/2RP8LSy>

Eugenie Clark research with eels [6:24] from *Small Hope Bay Lodge*: <https://bit.ly/3vEHqBn>

Eugenie Clark memorial video [2:47] from *Cayman Tourism*: <https://bit.ly/3yK4G2w>

Books

Non-fiction

Swimming with Sharks: The Daring Discoveries of Eugenie Clark (2016) by Heather Lang and Jordi Solano (children's)

Ocean Speaks: How Marie Tharp Revealed the Ocean's Biggest Secret (2020) by Jess Keating and Katie Hickey (children's)

Fiction

Misunderstood Shark (2018) by Ame Dyckman and Scott Magoon (children's)

Printables

Shark Silhouettes

Diver Silhouettes



Whale Shark



Basking Shark



Mako Shark



Common Thresher Shark



Bull Shark



Tiger Shark



Great White Shark



Oceanic White Tip Shark



Blue Shark



Great Hammerhead Shark



Nurse Shark



Blacktip Reef Shark



Brownbanded Bamboo Shark



Lemon Shark



Blunt nose sixgill Shark



Cookiecutter Shark



Dwarf Lantern Shark



Longnose Saw Shark

