

Cardboard-Bubble-Wrap Octopus

IT'S HARD TO RESIST BUBBLE WRAP. GET A POP OR TWO CREATING THIS REALLY NEAT CARDBOARD-BUBBLE-WRAP OCTOPUS CRAFT!

MATERIALS:

- BUBBLE WRAP
- CARDBOARD
- CONSTRUCTION PAPER - BLUE, PURPLE, WHITE, AND BLACK
- ACRYLIC PAINT - BLUE, PURPLE, AND A VARIETY OF COLORS
- GLUE STICK
- SCISSORS
- PENCIL
- 1" HOLE PUNCH



STEP 1:

Begin by smearing different colors of paint all over a sheet of bubble wrap. The sheet of bubble wrap needs to be larger than a sheet of construction paper.

STEP 2:

Use any colors of paint you'd like for the tentacle suction cups. We used pink, purple, blues, oranges, yellow, red, green. Basically any paint color we had on hand. Paint on with a paintbrush, and don't oversaturate the bubble wrap. Blot with a paper towel if too much paint.

STEP 3:

Take a sheet of construction paper, purple or blue or whatever color you're using for the tentacles, and press fully into the painted bubble wrap. Carefully lift off. Let dry completely.

STEP 4:

While the paper is drying, cut an oval shape out of a sheet of cardboard for the head.

STEP 5:

Paint the cardboard. We painted one of our octopus shapes blue and another purple, using two different shades of each for added dimension. Let dry.

STEP 6:

Cut 2 large circles from the white paper for each octopus. Also cut 2 black circles using either a 1" hole punch or with scissors. Glue the black circles in the center of the white paper for the eyes. Adhere the eyes in place on the octopus.

STEP 7:

Now, cut the bubble wrap-pressed painted paper into 8 long strips. Glue the strips to the back of the cardboard. Curl the ends of the strips around a pencil.



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Krakenarium



MAKE YOUR OWN KRAKENARIUM (Adult assistance and supervision required).

MATERIALS:

- WATER
- CLEAR JAR OR CONTAINER ABOUT 6" TALL X 3" WIDE
- SMALL ROCKS
- THREAD
- FOOD COLORING
- FABRIC
- FELT
- SCISSORS
- MODELING CLAY
- CRAFT STICKS
- GOOGLY EYES
- HOT GLUE GUN OR WATERPROOF GLUE
- OPTIONAL: EFFERVESCENT TABLETS

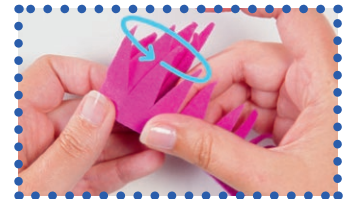
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PLANT 1 (Sea shrub):

Materials: felt, small rock, scissors and glue gun

Cut felt into 8" long by about 1" wide with one end slightly wider than the other (but be careful not to cut through). All along the angled side of the felt, cut out little triangles but be careful not to cut through. Place a small amount of glue on the rock. Starting at the wide end of the felt, wrap it tightly around the rock and seal the end with another blob of glue to make your little sea shrub.



PLANT 2 (Sea Tree):

Materials: strip of colored material, craft stick, scissors and glue gun

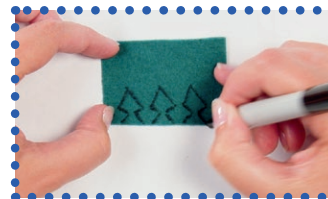
Need a strip of colored material about 12" long by 1" wide. Make little cuts all along the one side of the material, again being careful not to cut all the way through. Place a little blob of glue on one end of the craft stick and attach the material with the slits facing up and tightly wind the material around the stick from top to bottom leaving a little stock on bottom and glueing the end in place. Use a small ball of modeling clay as a stand for your sea tree.



FISH:

Materials: pen or pencil, colored felt, scissors, thread and glue gun

Draw little fish shapes on the colored felt and then carefully cut them out. Cut a long piece of thread, about 10" long. Place a little blob of glue on each fish. Carefully stick each fish on one end of the thread leaving a gap about 1/2" between each of them. Put the fish aside to let the glue set.



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Krakenarium



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KRAKEN:

Materials: modeling clay, small rock, googly eyes, thread and scissors

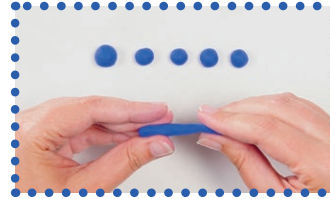
Cut a 12" piece of thread and securely tie it around the rock.

Take a ball of modeling clay (around 1/2" in diameter) and kneed it a little to make it pliable and then wrap it around the rock, where the thread comes out will be the top of the head.

For the tentacles you'll need six slightly smaller balls of clay. Knead and roll them out to make 2" long round strips. You'll need 2 that are slightly longer than the others.

Gently attach all the tentacles to the head. You can curl up the four shorter tentacles to add character to the Kraken.

Finally stick on the googly eyes.



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PREPARE LID:

In order to make it so the fish and kraken can swim in the water, you'll need to glue them to the lid. First you need to make sure they have enough room. By holding the thread attached to the Kraken and the fish measure from the top of the jar so they sit about 2" from the bottom of the jar. Mark the spot on the thread, that's where you will need to glue it to the lid. Glue two spots on the underside of the lid and lay the string on it. Add another dollop for safety. Leave them until the glue dries. Once glue has dried you can cut off the excess thread.



PREPARE THE WATER FOR THEIR HABITAT:

Fill a different jar or jug with water and add a drop of food coloring to create the blue of the ocean. Add more color if needed, but be careful not to make too dark or you won't see anything in the jar.

PREPARE THE JAR TO CREATE OCEAN FLOOR:

Place the tree in the jar then pour in stones to cover about an inch, then place in the sea shrub. Very carefully pour in the colored water. Finally, you can gently place the fish and kraken into the jar and firmly close the lid.

Now you have your very own Krakenarium!

If you want to make your Krakenarium extra special. A fun trick is to gently open the lid and drop in a piece of effervescent tablet and watch as it creates a bubbly experience!



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