

DIVE IN! MORE SCUBA DIVING FUN

AGES

Children 8+ years

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

More scuba diving activities! Give a short presentation about amazing divers such as the Haenyeo Divers, Jacques Cousteau, or Eugenie Clark, then lead a discussion. What is the difference between snorkeling and diving? Children can practice “snorkeling” by pinching their noses and breathing through a paper straw for a couple of breaths. Then have children create a cute scuba diver craft (two options provided). For the photo booth, borrow some scuba diving gear from a local enthusiast. Suggested runtime: 60–90 min.

MATERIALS AND PREPARATION

Ocean Mural

Materials:

- Large paper
- Assorted art materials
- Scuba diving props (optional)

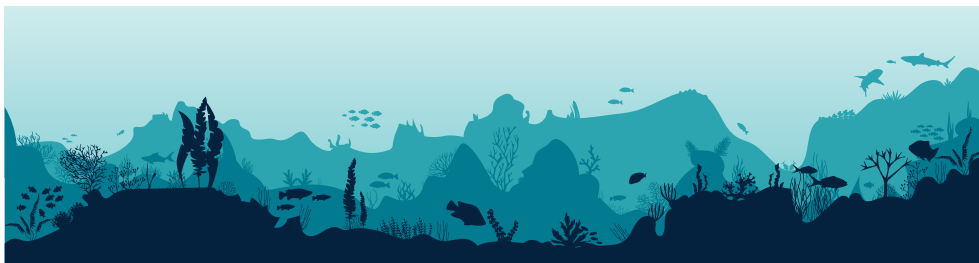


Image source: Shutterstock

Instructions:

Using a large piece of paper, draw an outline for an underwater scene. Participants add to the mural by using markers, paint, cutouts, etc. Add texture with additional art materials, such as crepe paper streamers for seaweed, sandpaper for the ocean floor, etc. Use whatever materials you have on hand. Once all participants have cycled through this station, open it up as a photo booth!

ADAPTATION:

A good program for older kids is to see if they can get a “scuba diver” to achieve neutral buoyancy. The librarian can explain the differences between positive, neutral, and negative buoyancy.

Egg-Cellent Diver Craft

Materials:

- 1 egg (blown-out shell, paper egg, or plastic egg)
- Hair elastics (1 per egg)
- Googly eyes (1 set per egg)
- Plastic bottle caps (1 per egg)
- Bendy paper straws (1 per egg)
- Stiff felt or cardboard (1 small piece per egg)
- White glue, quick-dry tacky glue, glue dots, or hot glue gun
- Egg dye or permanent markers (optional)
- Loop or training scissors (for inclusion)
- Oversized pencils (for inclusion)



Image source: Sidnie Srader of Jones Public Library, Dayton, TX

Assembly:

- Draw a flipper shape on your foam sheet, then cut it out.
- Glue flipper on the pointiest end of the egg (hold glue dot for 10 seconds)
- Wrap pipe cleaner around the middle of the egg, and twist the ends together
- Remove to cut off the extra, then secure it back in place with a glue dot.
- Place glue dots (two) on opposite edges of the bottom of the bottle cap, then attach the bottle cap to the pipe cleaner. Hold for 10 seconds.
- Attach googly eyes to the bottle cap with a glue dot for each, or use a sticker backed googly eye.
- Pull open the bendy straw. Place the shorter bent area below the bottle cap. Cut the long end so the straw is just above where the egg ends. Secure the egg with glue dots.

TIP:

If you use plastic eggs, you will need hot glue or glue dots to attach the pieces.

Swimming Diver Craft

Materials:

- Shoebox lid
- Craft stick
- Blue construction paper
- White paper
- Scissors or utility knife
- Glue or tape
- Markers/crayons and assorted craft materials

Assembly:

- Turn the shoebox lid lengthwise and cut blue paper to fit inside the lid.
- Create an ocean scene on the blue paper using markers/crayons, or whatever craft materials you have on hand for texture.
- Glue the picture inside the lid.
- Using scissors or a utility knife (have volunteers to help with this!) cut a long slit in the middle of the picture/lid, leaving uncut room on each end.
- Draw and color a diver on the white paper, then cut it out.
- Glue the diver to the top of the craft stick.
- Slide diver through the slit, so that you can move the diver around the picture.

Ocean Mural Photo Op

Participants take a picture in front of the mural wearing real scuba gear! Be sure to have a volunteer on hand to disinfect the gear between each person. You could also purchase props such as sea creatures for participants to hold and/or purchase a premade backdrop. Consider leaving the photo booth up all summer for a passive photo booth opportunity.

UNIQUE SPACE AND/OR PERSONNEL NEEDS

An extra volunteer is recommended for each craft station.

RESOURCES

Web

Divers in the Red Sea [6:30] from *Eastanubis*: <https://bit.ly/3urmA6W>

Video of a kid learning to scuba dive from *Laura Berg Life*:
<https://bit.ly/3wDmcUI>

Depth and water pressure from *Education*: <https://bit.ly/34kRZ03>

Video about Haenyeo Divers from *UNESCO*: <https://bit.ly/2RP9oLU>

“Jacques Cousteau for Kids” from *Bedtime History* [11:57]:
<https://bit.ly/3vrnyBt>

“The Story of Jacques Cousteau” from *SciShow* [4:32]:
<https://bit.ly/2SyPuog>

List of live underwater feeds from *The Haphazard Traveler*:
<https://bit.ly/3bUjQbB>

Alternate egg-cellent diver craft from *Hot Cinnamon Sticks*:
<https://bit.ly/3fNSPb1>

Egg-blowing instructions from *Saunder’s Eggs*: <https://bit.ly/3oV7Zzk>

Books

Non-fiction

Manfish: A Story of Jacques Cousteau (2008) by Jennifer Berne and Éric Puybaret (children’s)

The Fantastic Undersea Life of Jacques Cousteau (2012) by Dan Yaccarino (children’s)

Fiction

The Ocean Calls: A Haenyeo Mermaid Story (2020) by Tina Cho and Jess X. Snow (children’s)

Monsters Don’t Scuba Dive (The Adventures of the Bailey School Kids) (1995) by Debbie Dadey, Marcia Thornton Jones, and John Steven Gurney (children’s)

TIP:

See *Shark Lady Suncatcher* on page 78 for resources about Eugenie Clarke.