

CRAFT

OCEAN TREASURE CHESTS OR JEWELRY TRAYS

AGES

Teens/tweens

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Where do we stash our treasures? In this program, teens/tweens decorate either a wooden box to make a treasure chest, or an oyster shell to make a jewelry tray. Offer a variety of paints and napkins/magazines so participants can showcase their own style. See Resources for a coloring sheet they can work on while they wait for their projects to dry. Don't forget the treasure hunt book display! This program could also be adapted for take-and-make bags. Suggested runtime: 60–90 min.



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MATERIALS AND PREPARATION

Materials:

- Oyster shells or craft sea shells (large)
- Small wooden boxes
- Mod Podge
- Acrylic paints
- Paint brushes
- Scissors
- Ocean themed napkins or magazines
- White or gold spray paint (optional)

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Preparation:

- Check local seafood markets for oyster shells.
- Mix the acrylic paint with a little mod podge for better adhesion.
- Optionally, pre-paint the shell interiors white to cover dark spots.
- Set up tables and chairs

UNIQUE SPACE AND/OR PERSONNEL NEEDS

One extra staff member or volunteer for in-person programs.

RESOURCES

Web

Oyster shell dish tutorial from *A Piece of Rainbow*: <https://bit.ly/3oTJsuJ>

Oyster shell dish tutorial from *Kailea Crafting on the Fly* (video):
<https://bit.ly/3uo9ibf>

Books

Non-fiction

Pirate Hunters: Treasure, Obsession, and the Search for a Legendary Pirate Ship (2016) by Robert Kurson (YA/adult)

Treasure (Eyewitness Books) (2010) by Philip Steele (children's)

The Usborne Book of Treasure Hunting (1999) by Anna Claybourne et al.

Fiction

The Oyster Thief (2018) by Sonia Faruqi (YA)

Pirates of the Caribbean: The Price of Freedom (2011) by A.C. Crispin (YA)

The Pirate Captain's Daughter (2011) by Eve Bunting (YA)

The Storm Keeper's Island (2019) by Catherine Doyle (children's)

Gold (2017) by Geraldine Mills (children's)

Pirates!: The True and Remarkable Adventures of Minerva Sharpe and Nancy Kingston, Female Pirates (2005) by Celia Rees (YA)

Printables

Shark and Treasure Chest Coloring Sheet

