

# The sea

## Craft activities

### Underwater collage

#### What you will need

- \* Large sheet of paper (or two or three smaller sheets taped together)
- \* Wax crayons
- \* Paper fish shapes (these can be made by the children or in advance)
- \* Tissue paper
- \* Dried grains – lentils, rice, etc
- \* Small shells (optional)

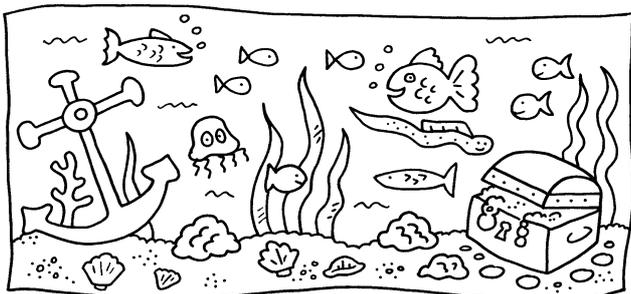
#### What to do

Colour a large sheet of paper with blue and green wax crayons: hold the crayons sideways and lightly drag them across from side to side. (You can use suitable coloured paper, but colouring your own is a lot better and more fun.)

Glue on fish shapes and strips of torn tissue paper for seaweed. Glue dried grains along the bottom of the picture for the sandy sea bed. Add rocks (paper or scrunched-up tissue), shells, sea creatures, treasure chests – perhaps even a shipwreck!

#### Try this idea!

Using a very large sheet of paper or lining paper from a roll, make a massive collage together with the whole group. You will have a brilliant result and everyone will enjoy it. If you don't have a wall or table large enough, use the floor!



### Fish

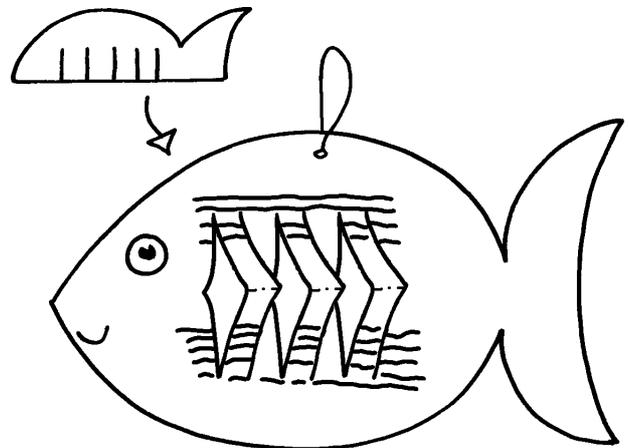
#### What you will need

- \* Paper (sugar paper or thick paper)
- \* Photocopiable fish template (page 122)
- \* Coloured tissue paper
- \* String

#### What to do

Cut out a fish shape from the paper (or these can be prepared in advance). Tear off small strips of tissue paper and glue them lengthways along both sides of the fish's body.

Fold the fish in half lengthways (nose to tail) and cut four or five times across the fold, about 1–2cm apart. Be careful not to cut too near to the edge. Leave a good margin of 4–5cm.



#### Tip

For best results allow the tissue paper to dry before cutting.

Open the fish and bend the 'cuts' alternately in and out.

Glue an eye onto each side and attach some string to the top of the body so the fish can be hung up.

## Jellyfish ○○○

### What you will need

- \* Reconstituted paper melon moulds (easily obtained from market stalls and supermarkets)
- \* Bubble wrap
- \* String
- \* Tinsel or strips of shiny paper (optional)

### What to do

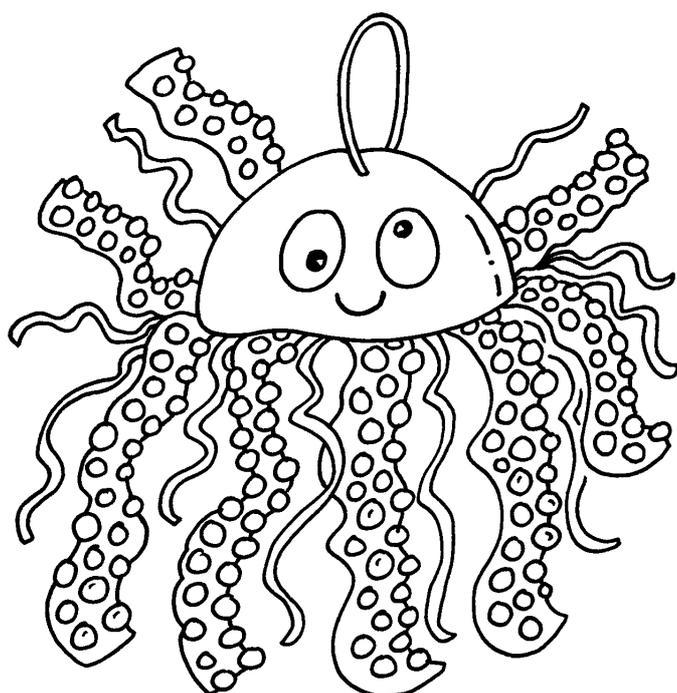
Cut round the melon moulds to separate them. Do not worry if they are a little uneven. Paint the upturned mould with a bright colour. Cut out and glue on two large eyes and allow to dry. Cut thin strips of bubble wrap at least 30cm long. Glue, tape or staple the strips to the inside of the mould. Attach string for hanging by pushing it through a small hole in the top of the mould and tying a knot on the inside.

#### Tip ★

Fold the bubble wrap into a fan shape and cut up the folds. Leave 2cm at the end to attach to the body.

#### Try this idea! ★

Add long strips of tinsel or shiny paper inside the top of the mould for an even better jellyfish.



## Painting activity

Put out stencils of fish and boats with small rollers or pieces of sponge, saucers of paint, and paper. Even tiny children love stencils, which are easy to obtain from craft shops or pre-school catalogues and last for ever.

#### Tip ★

It is a good idea for an adult to steady the stencil until the child is able to do so himself.

#### Tip ★

Children will inevitably smudge their pictures or stencil more shapes over their work. Accept this as part of the creative process.

#### Budget beater ★

Home-made stencils can easily be made from old cereal boxes – they work just as well but do not last as long.

## Talk about

- \* Has anyone visited the sea?
- \* Does anyone enjoy swimming - in the sea or swimming pool?
- \* Fish: How do they swim, breathe?
- \* Does anyone have a fish?
- \* Does anyone like fish to eat?

## Stories

- \* *The Snail and the Whale* by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler (Macmillan Children's Books)
- \* *Fidgety Fish* by Ruth Galloway (Little Tiger Press)
- \* *Captain Duck* by Jez Alborough (Picture Lions)

## Songs and rhymes

### One, two, three, four, five

*This well-known rhyme can be chanted or sung.*

One, two, three, four, five,  
Once I caught a fish alive  
*count on fingers*  
Six, seven, eight, nine, ten,  
Then I let him go again.  
*count on fingers*  
Why did you let him go?  
Because he bit my finger so.  
*'bite' little finger with left hand*  
Which finger did he bite?  
This little finger on the right.  
*hold up little finger of right hand*

### Row, row, row the boat

*This well-loved rhyme can be chanted or sung.  
(See page 9 for music).*

Row, row, row the boat, gently down the stream  
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily, life is but a dream.  
*Two people sit facing each other on the floor  
with their legs straight and touching, and  
holding hands. They lean in and out towards  
each other as if rowing.*

Rock, rock, rock the boat, gently to and fro;  
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily, into the water you go.  
*Rock from side to side and at the end of the  
verse 'fall over' to one side.*

Row, row, row the boat, gently down the stream  
If you see a dinosaur (or crocodile), don't forget to  
scream!  
*Lean in and out and finally scream loudly.*

#### Try this idea!

Keeping the instruments, try standing and marching or dancing round the room while playing to a taped accompaniment.

#### Try this idea!

Place a box of instruments on the floor in the middle of the circle and allow everyone to help themselves, children and adults alike. Remain seated and accompany yourselves to the song.

### Bobby Shaftoe

Bobby Shaftoe's gone to sea,  
Silver buckles on his knee,  
He'll come back and marry me,  
Bonny Bobby Shaftoe.

*With the instruments gathered up and everyone seated you may want to try a calming lullaby. This is lovely for the children to snuggle up and rock to.*

### Good-bye song

*Finish every session with the Good-bye song.  
(See page 9 for music).*

Good-bye (Matthew), good-bye (Amy),  
Good-bye (Daniel), it's time for us to go.  
Good-bye (Hattie), good-bye (Sanjit),  
Good-bye (Charley), it's time for us to go.  
Good-bye (Lydia), good-bye mummies,  
Good-bye everyone, it's time for us to go.

*Just add more lines as necessary so that everyone is mentioned in the song.*

### Other suggestions

- \* Dance to your daddy
- \* Three jellyfish
- \* Rub-a-dub-dub, three men in a tub
- \* A sailor went to sea, sea, sea  
*This is fun to sing along to with instruments.*

## Row, row, row the boat

Musical notation for the first line of the song. It features a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (Bb), and a 6/8 time signature. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. Chords C, C, and G are indicated above the staff.

Row, row, row the boat, gent - ly down the stream;

Musical notation for the second line of the song. It features a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (Bb), and a 6/8 time signature. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. Chords C, G, and C are indicated above the staff.

Mer - ril - ly, life is but a dream.

## Good-bye song

Musical notation for the first line of the song. It features a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (Bb), and a 2/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. Chords F and C are indicated above the staff.

Good - bye (Matth - ew), good - bye (Amy),

Musical notation for the second line of the song. It features a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (Bb), and a 2/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. Chords F, Bb, C, and F are indicated above the staff.

good - bye (Dani - el), it's time for us to go.