

Build an Ocean Habitat

Inspired by *The Little Lobster* by W. Thomas Hotz.

Goal: Create an ocean habitat scene to model the interactions between an ocean creature and its environment.

You will need:

- Paper or cardboard
- Crayons, markers, or paint
- Recycled materials (egg cartons, paper rolls, bottle caps, paper scraps)
- Glue or tape
- Scissors

What to do:

- Talk about what you might find in the ocean, such as lobsters, fish, seaweed, and rocks. Select an animal that you are curious about. Find out where it lives and how it behaves.
- Use art materials to create a model of the animal in its environment. You might include the ocean, plants, non-living objects, and other animals found within the location.
- Share with someone what you included and why.

To think about:

- Would a lobster live in your ocean habitat? Why do you think that?
- What animals live near the bottom of the ocean? Which ones swim?
- How do plants and animals help each other in the ocean?
- What might happen if the ocean became dirty or unsafe for animals?



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