

MODELING / STEAM ACTIVITY
CREATED FOR CABRILLO MARINE AQUARIUM
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SEA OTTER DIORAMA

SHADOW ART + FOOD WEB



MATERIALS:

- ONE COLOR PAPER FOR BACKGROUND AND ANOTHER CONTRASTING COLOR FOR ANIMALS AND HABITAT
- OR MAGAZINES/ LEFTOVER ADVERTISEMENTS IN NICE COLORS LIKE MORE OF A COLLAGE (NOT SHOWN IN OUR EXAMPLE)
- SCISSORS
- BOX BOARD (LIKE FROM CEREAL BOXES) / OR A SMALL TO MEDIUM FRAME TO REPURPOSE.
- GLUE OR GLUE STICK
- POSICLE STICKS / CHOPSTICKS (IF DESIRED)
- TAPE (IF NEEDED TO HELLO SECURE ITEMS)

OVERVIEW: WE ARE MAKING A SHADOW ART/COLLAGES CRAFT THAT SHOWS THE VARIOUS TYPES OF FOODS, HABITAT, AND HOW SEA OTTERS LIVE IN THAT HABITAT. OUR GOAL IS TO CREATE ART THAT REPRESENTS THE SEA OTTER HABITAT AND FOOD CHOICES FROM NEW OR REPURPOSED ITEMS AROUND THE HOUSE.

CHOOSE YOUR COLORS >> CUT OUT SHAPES/ANIMALS >> GLUE YOUR SHAPES >>
MAKE A FRAME >> HANG IN A FAVORITE SPOT!

IF YOU WANT TO USE THIS AS A VERY OPEN STEAM ACTIVITY, JUST GIVE THE BASIC INSTRUCTIONS AND GOALS AND LET STUDENTS COME UP WITH THEIR OWN SOLUTIONS OR PROCESS.

FRAMING

- 1.) **Plan your paper to the size to fit your frame** if using a repurposed frame.
- 2.) **Check that your collage will fit inside your frame border,**
- 3.) **OR leave some empty border in your picture** if you will make your own frame.
- 4.) **You can make a frame** from cutting cereal or other food boxes. Either covering them with more magazine pages, or painting or coloring them somehow.

SHADOW ART WITH COLORED PAPER

- 1.) **Choose a background color and your animals /habitat elements color**
- 2.) **Choose the animals and natural elements to have in your diorama.** Some ideas are; Long Strands of Kelp, Small bits of algae, Rocks, Crabs, Clams, Abalone, Sea Urchin, Sea Stars, Sea Otters. Consider what colors you want those elements to be if you're using more than one color paper.
- 3.) **Draw outlines of shapes or trace outlines.** It helps when the shapes will stand out against a neutral or simple background.
- 4.) **Cut out the shapes.**

- 5.) **Place and arrange your animals and habitat elements** and glue or tape them onto your background.
- 6.) Frame your artwork.
- 7.) Hang your art in a favorite spot!

ALTERNATIVE - DIRECTIONS FOR USING MAGAZINE PAPER:

- 1.) **Collect your magazine or add pages.**
- 2.) Divide your papers or cut paper sections into colors: Greens, Blues, Oranges/Reds, Black/Brown / Dark Grey, Yellows, Light/White Colors.
- 3.) **Choose a background color** early in the process.
- 4.) **What animals and natural elements will you have in your diorama?** Some ideas are; Long Strands of Kelp, Small bits of algae, Rocks, Crabs, Clams, Abalone, Sea Urchin, Sea Stars, Sea Otters and consider what colors you want those elements to be?
- 5.) **Start to draw outlines of shapes or trace outlines.**
- 6.) **Cut out the chapes.**
- 7.) **Place animals and habitat elements** and glue them onto your background
- 8.) Frame your artwork.
- 9.) HAng your Artwork in a favorite spot!

HANGING THE ART

- 1.) If you've made a frame out of cereal type boxes, you might use chopsticks or popsicle sticks on the back of the frame to strengthen your picture frame.
- 2.) Try a different version of strengthening the frame and experiment to see what works best for your hanging needs.
- 3.) Tie string, ribbon to the frame, or chopsticks/popsicle stick on the back, and find a place to hang your art!