

How to Make a Diorama

Get creative when making a diorama! You can base it on a real animal or a made up one. Think about where that animal lives, what else lives there, the environment, and how you can make it all come to life. Follow the instructions on the side.

1. Draw and color in the background of your diorama. Your animal could live in the desert, sea, river, mountains, forests, or plains. Decorate the back to show where that animal lives.
Ex. Crabs live underwater so I colored the sides blue and brown.



2. Draw and create other environmental features that show how your animal lives. Add trees, sand, grass, dirt, hills, etc. out of materials from home or that you made yourself.
Ex. Sand/dirt on the bottom and sea grass throughout the bottom.

3. Add your animal!
Ex. A crab.

Making a diorama label:

What do you need in a label?

Common Name: What this animal is called regularly.

Scientific Name: This might take some extra effort! The scientific name is unique to that animal and usually gets written as two words. For example, "crab" can be any crab but "Callinectes sapidus" is this particular crab! Those two words listed in most dioramas are the genus and species, in that order. Genus gets capitalized and species is lowercase

Diet: What do they eat? You can use scientific terms like "herbivore" or regular terms like "eats plants."

Life span: How long do they live in the wild?

Size: How big can they get?

Fact: Give a fun and interesting fact about the animal.

Example Label

Common Name: Blue Crab

Scientific Name: *Callinectes sapidus*

Diet: Omnivore

Life span: 1-3 years

Size: Around 7-9 inches.

Fact: Blue crabs feed on almost anything. They're scavengers and bottom-feeders. This includes fish, plants, mussels, dead animals, and even smaller crabs.