

PEACOCK MANTIS SHRIMP

It's Not A Peacock Or A Mantis Or A Shrimp. But It Is
One Of The Most Fascinating Creatures On The Planet!

Materials:

Peacock Shrimp Template (See Below)
6 sheets of tissue paper in multiple colors
¼ Cup of White Glue
1 Cup of Water
1 Bowl to Mix Glue & Water
1 Paint Brush
1 Gallon Size Plastic Bag
1 Pair of Scissors
2 Pompoms (Small or Large)
2 Small Googly Eyes
1 Piece of Construction Paper or Sandpaper
Crayons
Seashells (Optional)



Directions:

First, make super-duper-one-of-a-kind peacock mantis shrimp body paper.

1. Lay the plastic bag flat down on the table with the opening facing you. Cut along the left edge from top to bottom. Do the same for the right edge. Unfold the bag and cut it in half. You should now have two sheets of plastic. You will only need one piece for this project. So, give the other piece to a friend or save it for another project.
2. Tear the 6 sheets of tissue paper into small, uneven pieces. Try to use at least 4 different colors.
3. Prepare the glue by mixing together ¼ cup of white glue and 1 cup of water. Use your paintbrush to stir.
4. Put the plastic bag flat on a table and use the paint brush to spread a thin layer of the glue mixture all over the surface.
5. Place the small, uneven pieces of tissue paper on the glued surface. Overlap a lot. Try to cover most of the plastic.
6. Paint another thin layer of the glue mixture on top of the tissue paper.
7. Allow to dry. This might take a while! With an adult's help, you can speed up the process by using a blow dryer or by placing the project out in the sun.

Next, make the eyes & prepare the shape.

8. Glue each googly eye onto a pompom using white glue. This may take a while to dry. By the way, don't worry if you don't have googly eyes or pompoms! You can also draw eyes using a marker.
9. Cut out the Peacock Mantis Shrimp that is drawn on the template. Cut along the outside lines so that your shape is one piece when you finish cutting. You will need this later when you trace the shape onto the paper.

Then, make the background.

10. Either on construction paper or on sandpaper draw a background for your Mantis Shrimp. If you want to create a sandy background it's really fun to draw on colored sandpaper but this will wear down your crayons very quickly. Your background can include seaweed or rocks or fish or shells or waves or anything else you choose!
11. Optional: You can glue seashells or other decorative elements onto your background.

Finally, put it all together!

12. After the tissue paper has dried, carefully peel it off the plastic and enjoy seeing the colorful new piece of paper that you created.
13. Place the Peacock Mantis Shrimp shape that you previously cut out (from the template) on your new paper. Using a marker or a pencil, trace the shape. If you prefer you can just draw your own picture of a Mantis Shrimp.
14. Cut out your Mantis Shrimp. Note: Save your leftover paper and plastic bag! You can add more glue and more tissue paper to make another project.
15. Glue your Mantis Shrimp to the background.
16. Glue the eyeballs onto the Mantis Shrimp or draw eyes using a marker.
17. Write a story about your Peacock Mantis shrimp! What does it see? Where does it live? What's its name? Does it like game shows?

Enjoy!

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