



Museum of
Natural
History

Paper Starfish Decoration

**Get creative with colour
and pattern by making
this paper starfish hanging
decoration!**



Did you know?

Starfish can be an array of different colours, from sandy yellow to bright blue. Some are covered in intricate dot patterns, like the firebrick starfish.

You will need . . .

- Piece of thick paper or card - *a cereal box works well*
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Something circular to draw around - *we're using a small bowl*
- Scissors
- Colouring pencils or pens to decorate
- String or ribbon
- Sticky tape



Starfish specimen
from the Museum

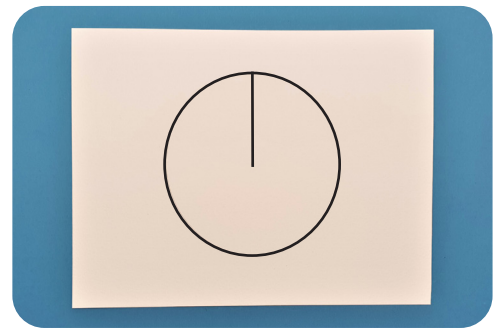
Instructions



On a piece of card, use a pencil to draw a large circle. To do this, we've used a small bowl to draw around.

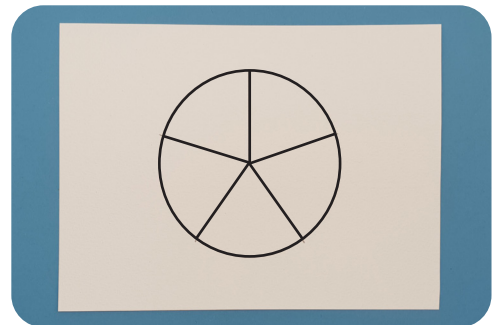
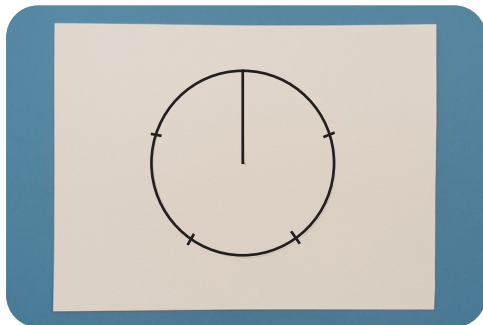


Mark the centre point of the circle, and draw a line from this point to the top of the circle.

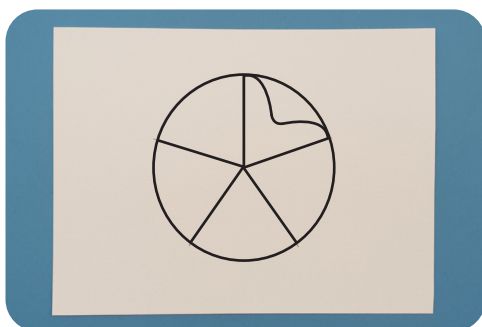


Using the top of the circle as a guide, mark four more dots along the edge of the circle. Try to space them out evenly.

Draw a line from the centre point to each of the outer points. This will form the base of our star shape.

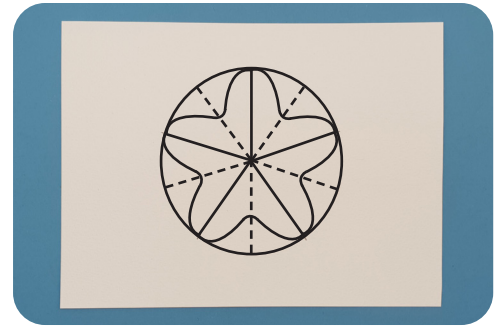


Connect each line by drawing a curved 'V' shape in each segment. This will create the outline of our starfish shape.





Draw a diagonal line half way through each segment, shown here with a dotted line. These will be our folding guides later on.



You will need to score the lines that you have drawn on the back of the card, you may need to ask an adult to help with this. A blunt plastic knife or a dried out roller ball pen work well. Remember to use a ruler to keep your lines straight.



To make the star shape appear 3D we must now fold along the scored lines. First fold the star in half. Then repeat this for all the lines until you have folded the star 5 times.



To make the starfish rise off the page, pinch the end of the arms together. Repeat this process for each arm of your starfish. You will now have a 3D starfish ready to decorate!



Use coloured pencils, felt pens or collage material to decorate the star like your favourite starfish. Take a look at our *'Have Yourself a Merry Little Starfish'* interactive activity for inspiration.



Once you've finished, remember to tape a small piece of ribbon on to the back so that you can hang the decoration for everyone to see!