



Octopus Crown

California tidepools are home to many different animals, including octopuses. Octopuses are able to camouflage themselves by changing the color and texture of their skin, helping them hide from predators and prey. Create your own octopus crown to stand out from the crowd!

Materials

Tape

Print-out templates (page 2 and 3)

Construction paper

Crayons or colored pencils



Directions

1. **Print and cut** one copy of the head template on page 2 and *two* copies of the tentacle template on page 3.
2. **Cut out** the head of the octopus from the template on page 2 and 8 tentacles from the two copies of the template on page 3.
3. **Cut out** two strips of construction paper, long ways, about 2 inches thick.
4. **Color** the strips of paper, the tentacles, and the head of the octopus.
 - a. *Challenge:* Octopus' skin doesn't just change color, but texture too. **Place** coins, sand, or any textured or bumpy surface underneath the octopus' head and tentacles cut outs and then **color** the paper. What happens?
5. **Tape** the head of the octopus and the tentacles onto one of the strips of paper, as seen in the picture to the right. **Tape** the rest of the tentacles to the second strip of paper.
6. **Tape** the two strips of construction paper together to form a circle, making sure it is big enough to fit on top of your head like a crown.





