



Shark Tooth Necklace

Different types of sharks have different types of teeth. Some sharks have big teeth, some have small teeth. Some sharks have teeth that are thin and pointy while other sharks have teeth that are short and curved. In this craft, you decide the shape and size for your replica shark tooth and then turn it into a necklace.

Materials

Craft putty, sculpting clay, or play dough (recipe on page 2)
Pencil or chopstick
Yarn or string

Directions

1. **Look** at the different types of shark teeth on page 2 and pick one as a model for your necklace. Notice the shape of the tooth that you picked. Is it a wide triangle, or a tall and pointy triangle?
2. **Sculpt** a small, grape-sized, piece of crafting putty, sculpting clay, or play dough into a flat triangle similar to the shape of the tooth.
3. **Look** at the details of the tooth you've chosen. Is the bottom rounded inward or rounded outward? Are there any cracks or missing pieces? Does it have a smooth or jagged edge? **Sculpt** these details into the tooth you are making. (Tip: Push your fingernail or the tip of a pencil into the clay to make dents.)
4. **Poke** a hole in the tooth using a pencil or chopstick where the necklace yarn will go through. Make sure to place the hole away from the edge of the tooth so it does not break.
5. **Cut** a piece of yarn (or string) to the length you want for your necklace. **Thread** the yarn through the hole in the tooth. **Tie** the two loose ends of the yarn together to make a necklace.
6. **Investigate** more fossil specimens from the Academy's geology collections by going to: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/casgeology/albums>.



Shark teeth

The fossilized shark teeth shown below are all from extinct species of sharks. They are kept in the geology research collections at the California Academy of Sciences.



Chiloscyllium sp.
Extinct bamboo shark



Squalus serriculus
Extinct dogfish shark



Notidanion boreale
Extinct cow shark



Isurus smithii
Extinct mako shark



Carcharodon megalodon
Extinct Megalodon shark

Play dough recipe

Adult supervision and assistance required.

1. Combine 1 cup of flour, 2 teaspoons cream of tartar, and $\frac{1}{3}$ cup salt.
2. Add 1 cup water and 1 tablespoon cooking oil. Stir well.
3. Add food coloring of your choice.
4. Heat mixture on medium-low, stirring constantly.
5. Remove from heat when the mixture solidifies.
6. Put the play dough on wax paper and let it cool for at least 30 minutes.
7. Store in an air-tight container in the fridge for up to 2 months.