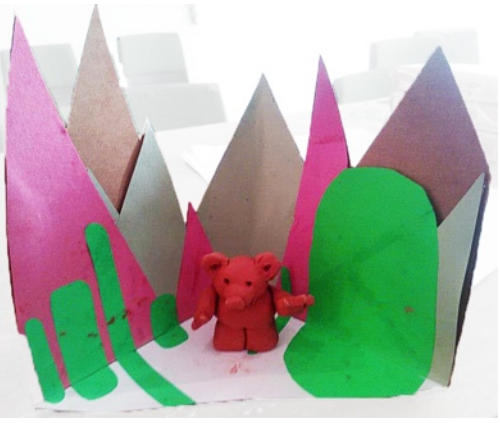
CoolitArt

Clay Figure in a Habitat







Clay Figure in a Habitat is one of our messier projects but gives you the chance to work in 3D. You can make an animal, monsters, aliens or even a fairy princess, the possibilities are endless!

Tools and Materials:

- Cereal Box
- Paper for collage and base
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Prittstick and Sellotape
- Air Drying Clay (we used DAS but there are many brands of clay, 500g of clay which would do 8-10 kids costs around £3)
- Water (to wet the clay)



Break a bit of clay off to form the body of your creature, we are making an octopus so his body and head are in one, if your creation has a separate head and body you can join them using water. You can use water to smooth the clay



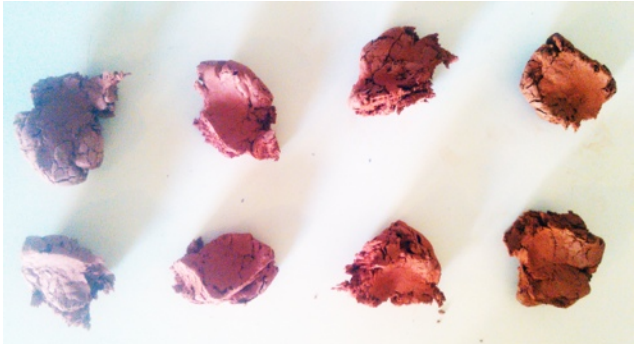


Once you are happy with the body you can start to make the legs, our octopus has 8 legs, so using a similar size bit of clay as the body, break it in half, break the half in half, then break it in half again, continue till you have all eight legs. This is the easiest way to get them roughly the same size!







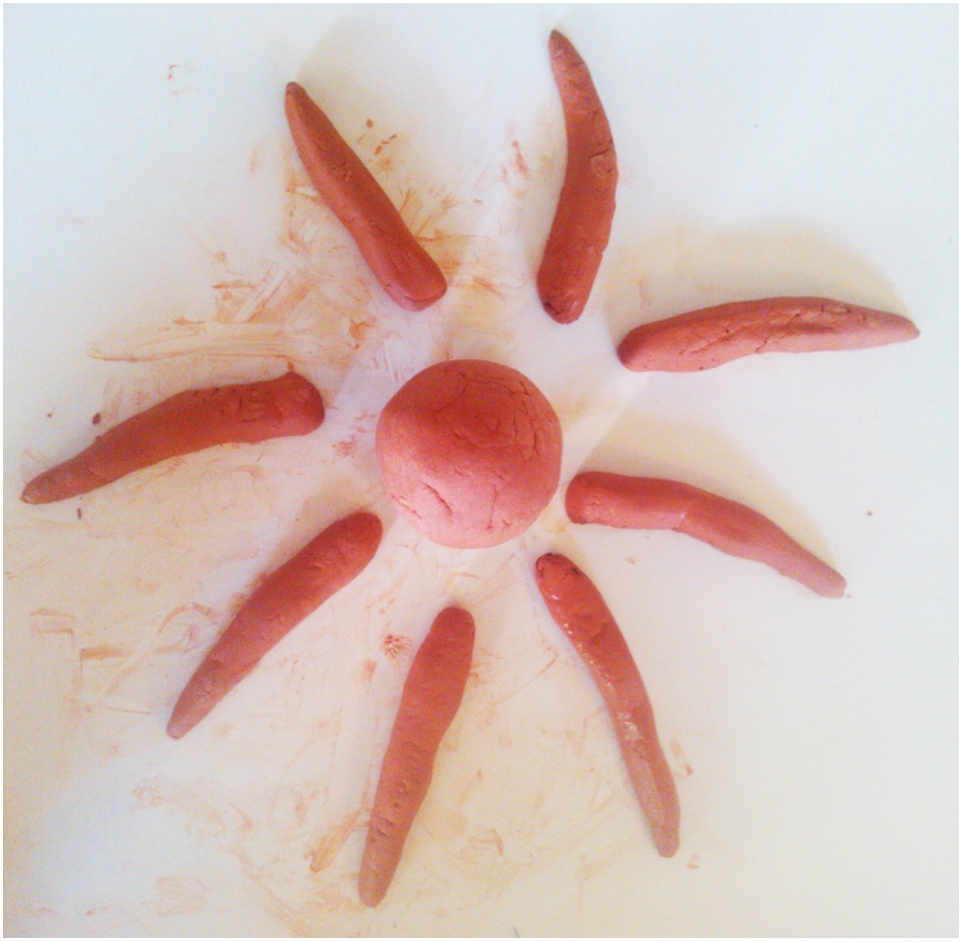


Now you can start shaping the legs, with most legs not just an octopuses' legs you want to make a sausage shape, put the clay in between your hands and roll your palms forwards and backward over each other like so





Once you have all your legs done you can think about sticking them on



The best way to make sure a leg or arm sticks on is to make a hole in the body so it is more secure! Using a pencil you can make a hole in the body, we are making 8 holes for 8 legs, don't worry if when you start making the holes the body gets misshapen this is the great thing about clay you can just remodel it so please don't worry!





Once you have made the holes dampen them with some water and dip the legs in water too, them both being wet makes it easier to stick them together





You can use the water to shape the legs once attached, plus it will smooth out any cracks that have formed

Think about how you want the legs to be, all wriggly, some straight? Have a play as if you don't like the shape you can always bend it into another one!





When you are happy with the shape of the creature you can use the pencil to give more details such as a face









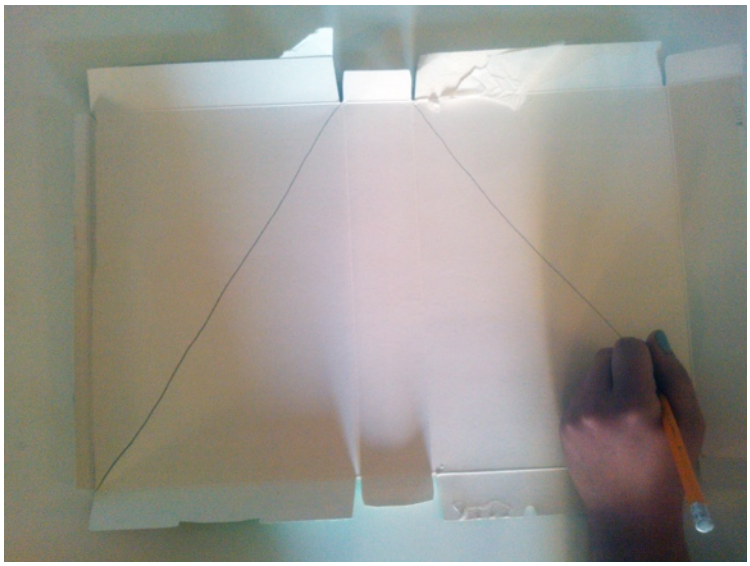
Once happy with the face have a last check and smooth everything down that needs it, then put your creation to the side he will need a few days to dry fully the best place to help speed it up is a sunny windowsill



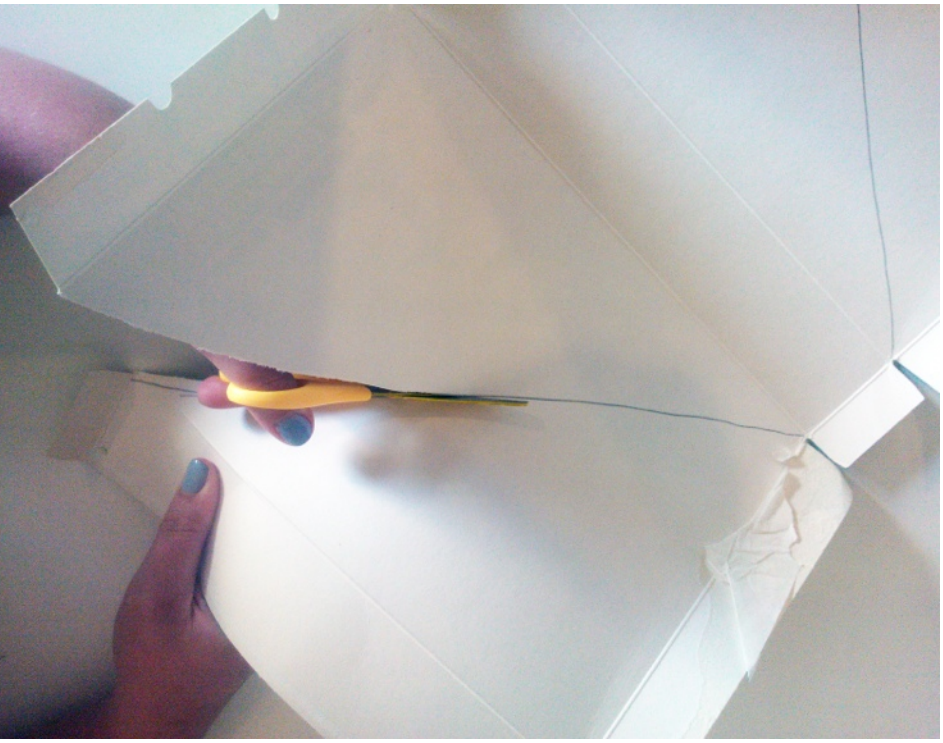


Now we can start to make the habitat, get your cereal box and open it up so you have a flat surface, draw out a triangle in the middle, leaving the flaps on



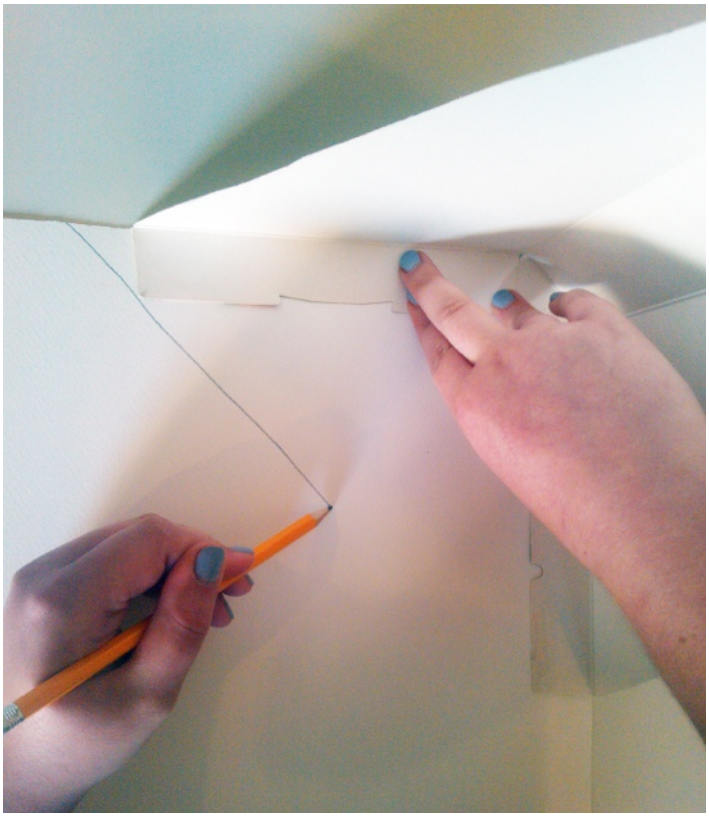


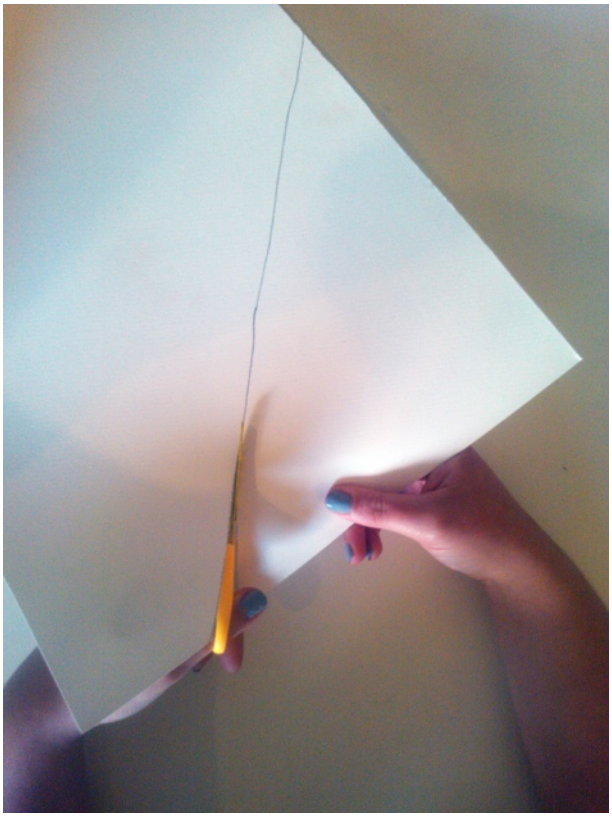
Cut it out, leave the flap along the bottom on but you can cut the top one off



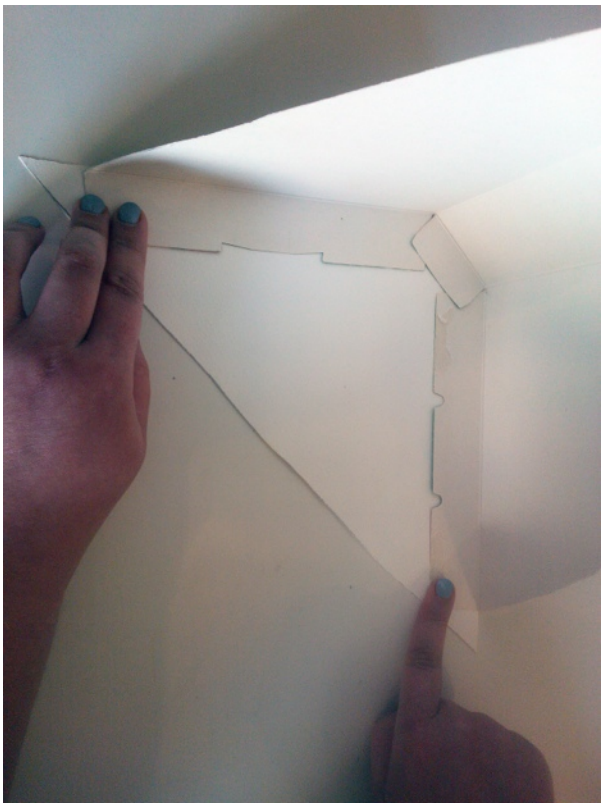


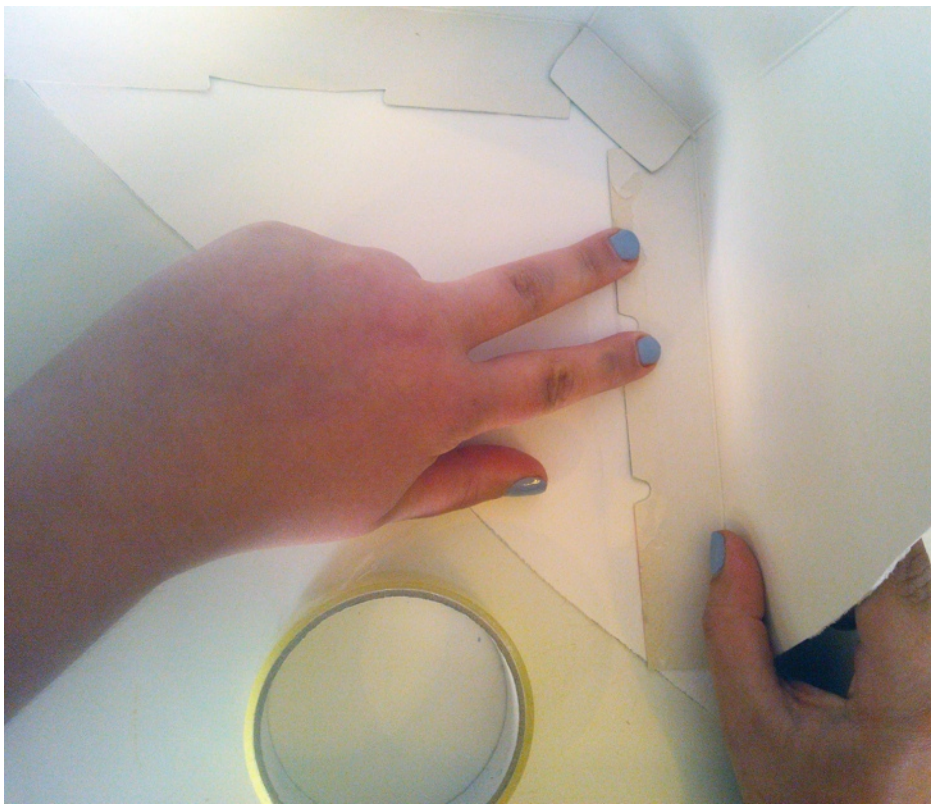
Now to create the base, line up your cereal box along the sides of your paper and draw a line across the front to see where to cut





To put the base on line up the corners, make sure the flaps are all flat then you can start taping them down



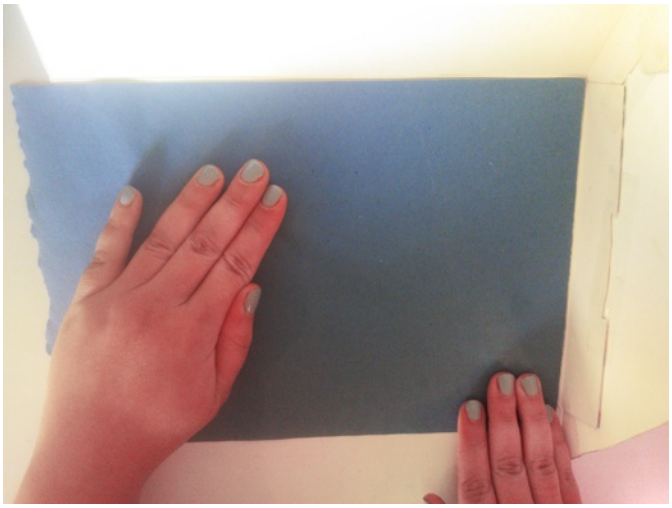


Flip the box over and tape the underside too

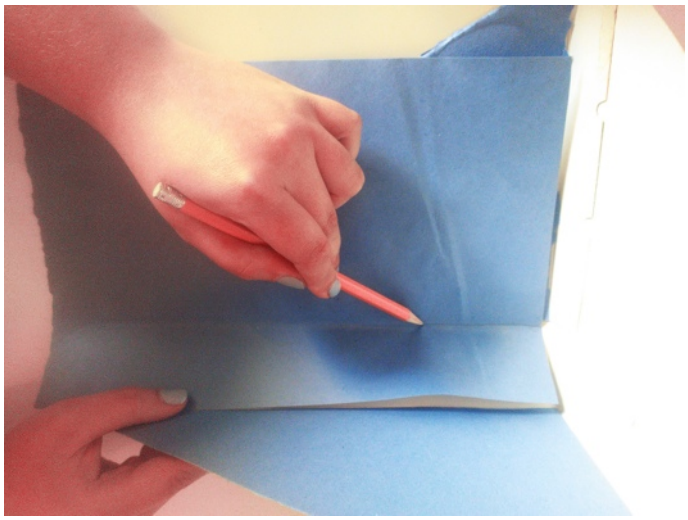


Now to start collaging the background, choose the colour of paper you want as a base for the background. Cover one triangle of the background on glue and push the paper onto it then trim off the excess use on other side keep going till all of the background is covered

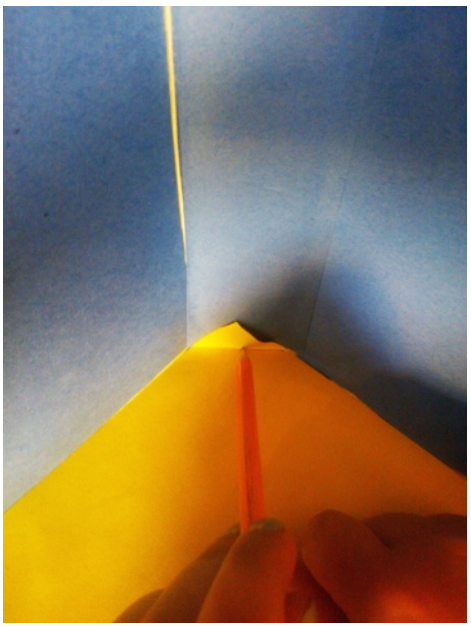
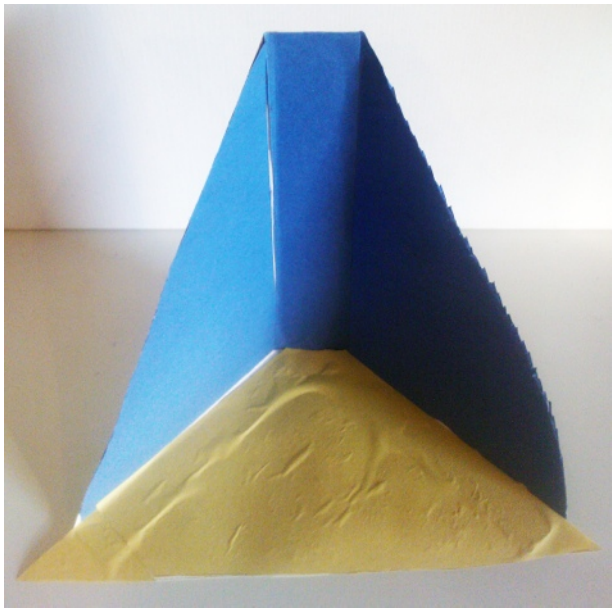








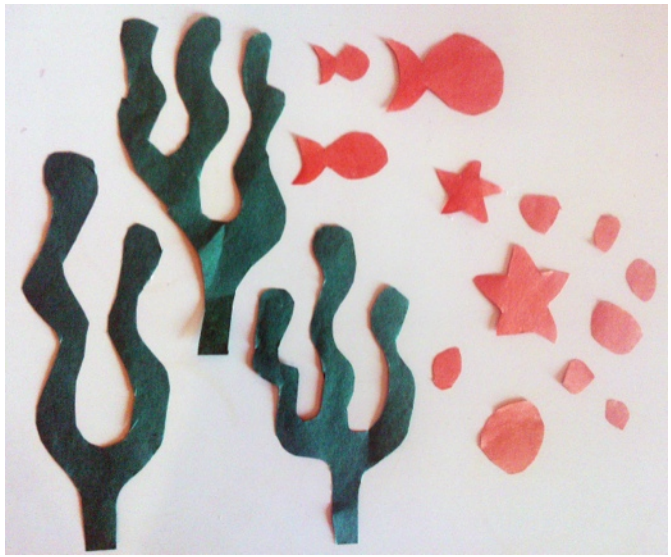
Now you can start doing the floor of the habitat

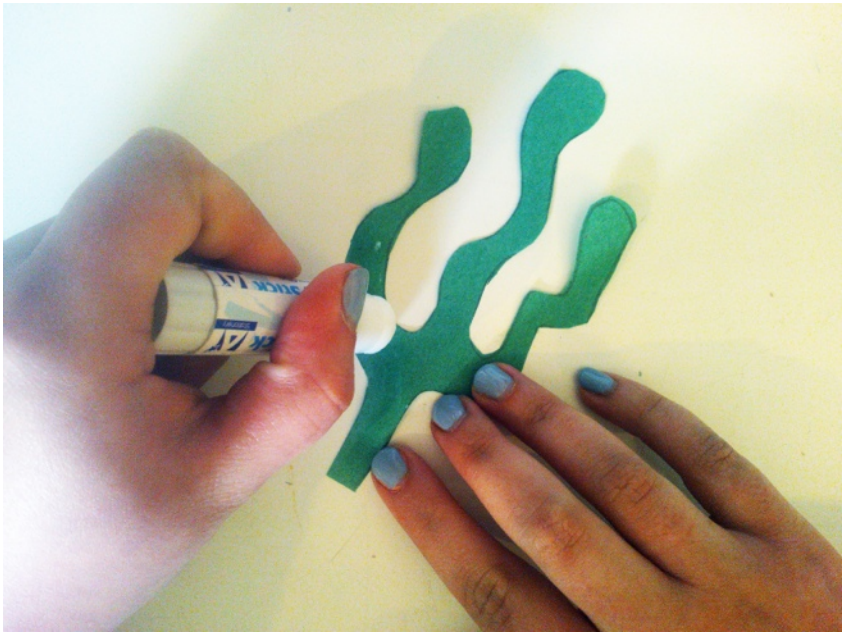
Once your habitat is fully covered you can start cutting out bits of paper to decorate it!







Start sticking your decorations on, think about spacing and where they would look the best



Now you have your finished Clay Figure in a Habitat!



You don’t have to make an octopus! Check out some other ones we have made for inspiration! You could also paint your figure

