

# PREHISTORIC LIFE

Here's what we used...

## SCENEARAMA® Items

- Mountain Diorama Kit
- Scene Setters: Prehistoric Life
- Large Project Base & Backdrop

## Household Items

- Clippings of Flowers and Bushes
- Craft Paints and Brushes
- Cutting Surface
- Disposable Cups
- Hobby Knife
- Masking Tape
- Measuring Spoons
- Newspaper
- Pan for Water
- Ruler
- Scissors
- Tree-like Twigs

## Did you know?

Dinosaurs dominated Earth for more than 150 million years, making them some of the most enduring creatures to ever live. To date, more than 500 species of dinosaurs have been discovered. The word "dinosaur," which comes from Greek words meaning "terrible lizard," was created by Richard Owen in 1844.

## Fun Fact!

The largest dinosaur eggs ever discovered are 1' long by 10" wide or about the size of a football.



**1**

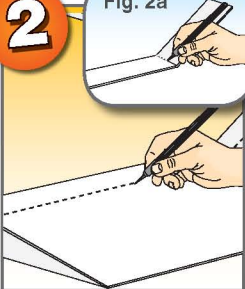
### 1 Rock Castings

- Mix and use *Casting Plaster* per Basic Use instructions.
- Pour into *Rock Mold*, let set 30-40 minutes.

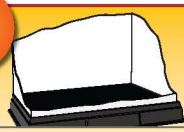
**TIP!** For a variety of rock sizes, fill *Mold* less than half full and tilt on its edge.

**2**

Fig. 2a

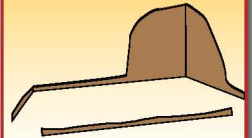


- Cut a 3/4" strip from top edge of *Backdrop*.
- Cut off side flaps from 3/4" strip at folds. (Fig. 2a)

**3**

### 3 Project Base & Backdrop (pg. 95-96)

- Design a *Backdrop* that best fits your diorama.
- Cut out using a hobby knife.
- Test fit *Backdrop* and 3/4" strip in grooves on *Project Base*.
- Make sure label area is facing forward.

**4**

### 4 Terrain Profile

- Create a terrain profile from cardboard *Side Panels*.

**5**

- Form *Side Panels* inside of backdrop on *Project Base*.
- Tape in place to *Base* with masking tape.
- Remove *Backdrop* and set aside.

**6**

### 6 Newspaper Wads

- Cover entire *Base* with newspaper wads. Arrange into desired terrain shape.
- Tape to hold in place.

**7**

### 7 Plaster Cloth and Edging

- Cover diorama with wet *Plaster Cloth* (3" strips), bumpy side up.
- Add 2 layers of *Plaster Cloth*.

**NOTE:** You will need to cut some 3" *Plaster Cloth* strips into 1" pieces (Step 8).

**8**

### 8 Attach and Blend

- Attach rock castings to *Plaster Cloth* terrain.
- Poke 1" strips of wet *Plaster Cloth* around rock edges to fill in gaps.
- Let dry.

**9**

### 9 Leopard Spot

- Dilute *Rock Colors*.
- Paint rocks with the Leopard Spot paint technique.

**NOTE:** Let rock castings dry 2-3 hours before coloring.

**10**

### 10 Earth Undercoat

- Brush diluted *Earth Undercoat* over entire terrain (avoid rocks).
- Let dry.

**NOTE:** Save some diluted *Earth Undercoat* for Step 11.

**11**

### 11 Color Talus

- Pour *Talus* into remaining *Earth Undercoat*.
- Mix with *Stir Stick*.
- Remove *Talus*, and let dry on newspaper.

**12**

### 12 Project Glue in Spray Bottle

- Spray diluted *Project Glue* on desired greenery areas.
- Using *Plastic Cup* and *Sifter Lid*, sprinkle *Green Grass* on glue.

**13**

- Spray diluted *Project Glue* on *Talus* areas.
- Sprinkle *Talus*.
- Spray again to seal.
- Let dry.

**14**

### 14 Foliage Fiber

- Separate *Foliage Fiber* into thin, lacy layers.
- Spray with diluted *Project Glue*.
- Sprinkle with *Evergreen* and *Forest Green Accents*, individually or as a mixture.

**15**

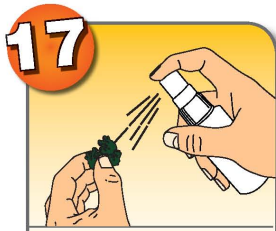
- Use diluted *Project Glue* to attach *Foliage Fiber*.
- Use *Foliage* for ground cover, moss, vines, tropical trees and more.

**TIP!** We dabbed craft paint on ground cover, *Shrubs* and *Foliage* to resemble flowers and new growth.

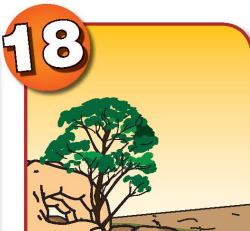
**16**

### 16 Deciduous Trees Using Natural Armatures

- Prepare Puffy Tree Foliage.
- Apply a drop of *Project Glue* to tip of "branch" and press foliage into glue.
- Spray with diluted *Project Glue* to seal.



- Spray evergreen or flower clippings with diluted *Project Glue*.
- Sprinkle with desired color of *Accent*.
- Spray again to seal.



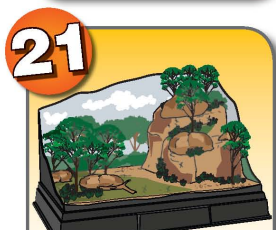
- i Plant Trees**
- Plant trees in desired locations.
  - Let dry.



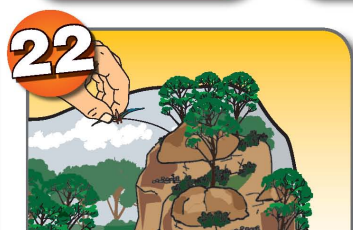
- Apply *Project Glue* where you would like bushes and fallen branches.
- Press *Shrubs*, prepared plant clippings and twigs into *Glue*.
- Spray with diluted *Project Glue* to seal.



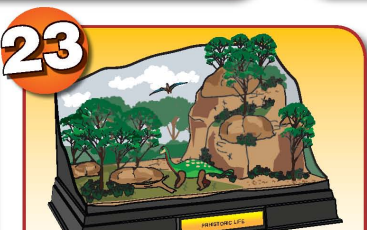
- i Paint**
- Use craft paints to paint front and back of *Backdrop*.
  - Let dry.



- To attach *Backdrop* to *Project Base*, use *Project Glue*.
- Glue front strip in place.



- Use *Project Glue* to attach *Scene Setters* in desired areas.
- TIP!** Attach the pteranodon to a piece of craft wire to resemble flight.



- i Labels**
- Label and add signage to your project.

**i** See the *A+ PROJECTS & DIORAMAS: The Student's Handbook (SP4171)* for more information.

**Fun Fact!**  
Dinosaur fossils have been found on every continent in the world, including Antarctica!

**Helpful Hint**  
Model plant life that reflects the climate of the Mesozoic era. During the Jurassic and Cretaceous periods, it was mostly tropical.

**More Ideas!**

Bring your project to life with Scene-A-Rama Scene Setters and ready-made Trees! Scene Setters are themed sets of people, animals and specialized items that are sized just right for dioramas and displays. With ready-made Trees, you can add a realistic effect to your project quickly and easily.

