

# World Book Day®: Shoebox Scene

Celebrate World Book Day by building a scene from your favourite book inside a shoebox. This resource will guide you through the process and provide top tips.

## Read a Book

Settle down with a book you enjoy - or a book you've never read before - and read. Picture books, graphic novels and comic books can be brilliant for giving you ideas for a shoebox scene. If the book is all words, pick out the sections that describe a location. How do you imagine this would look?

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## Design the Scene

Think about the book you've read. Which setting could you create in a shoebox? Use the space below to draw the scene. You could also label the parts of the scene and the materials you might need to use.

Illustration  
Allen Fatimaharan

# Making the Shoebox Scene

It's time to build the scene! Use the guidance below to help you create your masterpiece.

## You will need:

- a shoebox or other small recycled cardboard box
- a pencil
- your design

## Other suggested materials:

- small recycled cardboard boxes and tubes
- scrap paper
- old wrapping paper, magazines and newspaper
- fabric scraps
- glue and glue spreader
- sticky tape
- scissors
- paintbrushes
- different coloured paints
- paintbrushes
- palette (or use a recycled paper plate or piece of cardboard)
- cup with water
- felt-tip pens, colouring pencils or other drawing materials
- small world figures, animals, characters and items



## Top Tips:

**Start** with the background of your shoebox. Are you going to paint or draw inside the box? Could you use collage materials to make a cut-and-stick background?

**Next**, think about the larger features of the scene. Is there a building you could make from a smaller recycled box? Are you creating trees from cardboard tubes and tissue paper? Make the items outside the shoebox, then stick them in place once they're ready.

Make and add the smaller details **last**. You might want to make little plants and objects or small human or animal figures. You could also go into the box with a pen or paintbrush to add any finishing touches.

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## Other Ideas:

Try covering a torch in different materials to create a range of effects. You could then shine your torch into your shoebox scene at various angles to add to the atmosphere.

Write little speech bubbles for your characters and hang them from the top of the shoebox or attach them to the end of lolly sticks to use as props for play.

Some recycled packaging or wrapping is see-through. This could work well for windows or water.

Use playdough or air drying clay to build some parts of your scene. This will give you lots of freedom to sculpt and create organic shapes.

Can you add battery-powered fairy lights to your shoebox scene? Get an adult to help you. These can help to create a starry night inside the shoebox.

Thin wire can be used to make the frame of a structure, then you could use papier-mache to cover the frame.



Some ingredients and/or materials used might cause allergic reactions or health problems. You should ensure that you are fully aware of the allergies and health conditions of those taking part. If you have any concerns about your own or somebody else's health or wellbeing, always speak to a qualified health professional. Activities listed within the resource should always be supervised by an appropriate adult. Children should be supervised when using sharp items such as scissors or other tools. Please make sure you are aware that children may put craft items into their mouths, and that they should wash their hands afterwards. By using this resource, you acknowledge that it is the responsibility of supervising adults to ensure the safety of children in their care and that we will accept no liability as a result of the activity.

