From sea to shining sea monster, find your very own mystery monster at http://theshadowlands.net/serpent.htm and then Celebrate National Sea Serpent Day on August 7.

Don’t have a local sea serpent to tell-a-tale about? Then check out our enchanting sea monster puppets and then get a couple of yards of blue and aqua wedding veil tulle and with a twist and turn, make a sea of waves on a bookcase or across a bulletin board. Then you will have your own magic serpent display at your library.

To help you with everything from snacks to crafts PuppetTales and Houghton Mifflin have provided some great how-to-celebrate ideas. Find them all in this issue.

Make A Splash!

Stephanie Stokes
PuppetTales@misterandersons.com
What’s the best way to celebrate National Sea Serpent Day on August 7? With a sea serpent party of course. The idea comes from The Sea Serpent and Me, a new picture book from Houghton Mifflin. Written by Dashka Slater, and illustrated by Catia Chien, the book tells the story of an unusual friendship between a little girl and the tiny sea serpent that drops from her bathroom faucet. When a trip to the beach is foiled by rain, the two decide to have an indoor beach party.

You can have one too, to celebrate both National Sea Serpent Day and the launch of this wonderful new book. Below you will find tips on decorations, crafts, snacks, and games — all to celebrate those mysterious creatures from the deep blue sea.

DECORATIONS

Decorate your party room as if it were the beach. Drape your tables with colorful beach towels, and use plastic beach buckets to hold party favors, silverware, and flowers. A couple of beach umbrellas can make a fine hideout for kids to play in. Inflatable beach balls are terrific party favors. Don’t forget to play some surf guitar CDs to set the beach party mood!

SEA SERPENT SNACKS

Make an ocean by mixing equal parts plain yogurt or cream cheese and Green Goddess salad dressing. Spread a layer over a platter or individual plates.

Peel a cucumber and slice in half lengthwise. Scoop out the seeds with a spoon. Slice into half circles.

Arrange the cucumber slices in the ocean by standing them on their flat edges to form the coils of the Sea serpent. Cut one of the half circles in half again to form the head. Attach it to its cucumber body with a small piece of toothpick.

You can use peapods to make waves, and crumbled crackers to form the beach if you desire.

Sailboat Snacks:

Preheat oven to 350°. Use a glass or a 2 inch round cookie cutter to cut out circles of sandwich bread. Flatten each round with a rolling pin and then lightly brush both sides of each round with melted butter. Place the rounds into muffin cups, using your fingers or wine cork to press them into place. Bake for 8 to 10 minutes, or until lightly browned.

Fill each one with kid-friendly fillings like cream cheese, peanut butter, or tuna salad. Add sails by slicing quarter-inch squares of cheddar cheese, and then slicing them on the diagonal to form triangles. Attach a triangle to each boat with a toothpick to form the sail.
Other Sea-Themed Snacks:

• Make sea serpents out of honeydew melon. Halve the melon and scoop out the seeds. Peel and slice each half. Create sea serpents by arranging melon slices on a plate to form the coils. Cut one slice of melon in half to form the neck and head. Use a knife to create notches or the mouth and eyes. Insert a currant into the eye notches, then attach the neck and head piece to the body with a toothpick.

• Use star shaped cookie cutters to cut out starfish sandwiches

• Fill parfait glasses or clear plastic cups with blue Jell-O. Drop in a few Swedish Fish and Gummi Worms (sea serpents!) before chilling.

• Mix limeade, carbonated water, and lime sherbet or sorbet to create a bubbly “Sea Slurpent.”

Sea Serpent Cake

Ingredients:

1 cake mix, enough for a two layer cake
1 box confectioners sugar
1 cup butter (2 sticks)
5 Tablespoons light cream
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
green and blue food color
jelly rings
M&M’s
Good n. Plenty
Sour candy belts

Instructions:

Grease two round cake pans, line bottoms with wax paper, grease wax paper, dust pans with flour. Pour batter into pans. Bake and cool according to package directions.

Prepare frosting in a large bowl, by beating together confectioners sugar, butter, cream, and vanilla. Reserve a half cup, and then add a few drops of green food coloring to the rest .

Prepare the base on which the Sea serpent will rest. It can be a platter or a large piece of cardboard covered with blue paper.

Cut a 3 inch round out of the center of each cooled cake.

Cut each cake in half to make two c-shapes. Place C-shaped pieces end to end on the platter or cardboard, alternating directions so that the sea serpent seems to swivel.

For the head, use one of the 3 inch round cutouts, then slice the other 3-inch piece in half and arrange it to form his snout, spread a little bit apart so his mouth is open.

Frost the cake with green frosting. Cut jelly rings in half and use to make sea serpent scales down his back.

Make an eye out of one whole jelly ring with an M&M in the middle.

Cut spikes from pieces of green sour candy belts (cut them lengthwise, so that they are long) and arrange around his head to form his mane.

Add white Good n. Plenty teeth.

If you are using a platter, add a few drops of blue food coloring to the reserved half cup of frosting, and spread the frosting around the sea serpent to make the sea.

Green Chomper Hand Puppet - 8”
Green w/big white teeth and movable mouth.
Order #MN109610, Price : $14.95
Sea Serpent Games and Activities

• Have a sea serpent race! Divide children into groups of three — each group of three forms one sea serpent by lining up and holding onto each other’s waists. (The second child in line puts her hands around the waist of the first and the third child puts his hands around the waist of the second.) Have the sea serpents line up at the starting line and let the race begin!

• Have the children create a sea serpent by folding sheets of paper accordion style into thirds. (The paper should be oriented landscape wise). Have each child draw the head of a sea serpent on the first third of the paper and mark the connecting point of the body on the next third before folding it over so that the head can’t be seen and passing it on to the child on her right. The next child draws the sea serpent’s body, and marks the connecting point for the tail before folding it over so that the head and body can’t be seen and passing it to the child on his right.

This child will draw the tail. Open the folded drawing to see the completed sea serpent. Each child can then take home one sea serpent drawing.

Sea Serpent Crafts

Make A Home For Your Own Tiny Sea Serpent

You will need:

• A small fish bowl (around $3 at aquarium stores and easy to find at thrift stores) or use jelly jars or transparent plastic containers. This is a great project to do using recycled materials!

• Some gravel, sand, or small rocks (you can even use beans or lentils)

• Colored play-dough or modeling clay

• An assortment of small objects to use as decorations. flowers, fish, cars. whatever you have on hand!

• Sprigs of pine or other hardy leaves to use as underwater plants just bury one end in the gravel and they will stay in place.

1. Place the gravel on the bottom of the fish bowl

2. Have children make their sea serpent and other decorations out of playdough.

3. Arrange the decorations, plants and sea serpent on top of the gravel.

Make An Octopus or Sea Serpent Party Hat

You Will Need:

Newspaper
Purple, green, black, white, and orange paint
hole punch
purple yarn, ribbon, or string

Octopus hat: See Photo on Page 6.

1. Fold a full sheet of newspaper into fourths

2. Wrap it around the circumference of your head so that you are basically making a cylinder, and then tape the edges to keep the cylinder form in place.

3. Cut about half of the height of the cylinder so that it’s more or less a square (depending on how tall you want your octopus head).

4. Take each side of the top cylinder and fold down two flaps to make a flat top.
5. Fold down the corners and tape them in place.

6. When everything is secured with tape, paint the whole thing purple.

7. Use white and black paint to paint two eyes and a mouth.

8. Take a hole puncher and punch holes along the bottom edge of the hat.

9. Tie purple strings (can be anything through the holes. These will be the legs of the octopus!

10. Voila! you have an octopus hat.

**Sea Serpent Hat:**

1. Fold a full sheet of newspaper in fourths.

2. Wrap it around the circumference of your head so that you are making a cone, and then tape the edges to keep the cone form in place.

3. Cut about half of the height of the cone (depending on how tall you want your sea serpent hat).

4. Take each side of the top part of the hat and fold down two flaps to make a flat top. Tape in place.

5. Using the leftover newspaper, cut two triangles and attach these to the top of the cone to make the ears of the sea serpent.

6. When everything is secured with tape, paint the whole thing a bright green.

7. Paint two white circles and then inside the circles two black dots for the eyes.

8. Using orange paint, paint the nose. Use dark orange to paint the nostrils!

9. If you want, use the hole puncher to punch two holes on each side of the hat and tie an elastic string to keep the hat on!

Order #WR81170, Price: $24.95

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**Octopus Puppet Full-Body - 16”**

Slip your hand inside the pocket on the back of his head, and you can wiggle him around. This LARGE octopus puppet has soft red plush fur with pink fur on his underside and bulging yellow eyes.

Order #WR81170, Price: $24.95
Jump-in with a Font sure to make waves: JLR WAVES featured above.
www.fontspace.com/gorillablu/jlr-waves

Cryptozoology:
The study of creatures whose existence is as yet un-proved. Cryptozoological subjects include the Loch Ness monster and the Abominable Snowman.

Sea Serpent:

SIDEWALK Sea Serpent Chalk Art Show:
How-to Sidewalk Chalk Art Show
http://www.associatedcontent.com/article/35253/throw_an_art_show_sidewalk_party_for.html
http://www.associatedcontent.com/article/259878/sidewalk_chalk_art_show_keeps_kids.html

Chalk Artist Application Examples:
See very bottom of page at http://perrychalkfestival.com/

Chalk Art Serpent
http://endicottstudio.typepad.com/photos/uncategorized/markwagner_lizard01.jpg

Crayola outdoor products from chalk to paint kids can make big and colorful art that can be easily washed away with water. http://www.crayola.com/products/splash/outdoor/

SWAZZLE Puppet Craft for Kids:
Watch the How-to Video at Swazzle.com
www.swazzle.com/swazzleworkshop5.html

Download the Pattern
www.swazzle.com/pdfs/dragonsockpuppet.pdf

MOVIES On The Big Screen FILM FEST

The Water Horse: Legend of the Deep

Magic in the Water
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Magic_in_the_Water

Mee-Shee: The Water Giant
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mee-Shee:_The_Water_Giant

Loch Ness

Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea
20,000 Leagues Under the Sea (1954 film)
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/20%2C000_Leagues_Under_the_Sea_%281954_film%29

History Channel
Monster Quest DVD
From the lochs of Scotland to the forests of America's Northwest, MONSTERQUEST Historical research and high-tech expeditions of legendary monsters. For more Information call 1-800-550-8032
HERE IS THE SEA

Here is the sea, the wavy sea
(Indicate small waves with hands)
Here is the boat & here is me.
(Cup hands for boat, point to self)
All the fishes down below
(Put hands down low)
Wriggle their tails, & away they go.
(Wiggle fingers, put behind you)

Above: Scales ‘n Tales 3 Finger Puppet Set 4”
Order Code: #GU20180, Price: $15.95

Cover: Dr agon Hand Puppet with Roar Sound 12.5”
Page 1: Blue and green w/green horns. Order Code #GU20173, Price: $15.95  SOUND: Roar!

Cover: Sea Serpent Hand Puppet with Bubble Sound 12.5”
Page 1: Purple/Pink w/green fins. Order Code: #GU20172, Price: $15.95  SOUND: Bubble!

Page 10: Sea Horse Hand Puppet with Bubble Sound 12.5”
Blue with orange and green fins. Order Code: #GU20171, Price: $15.95  SOUND: Bubble!

I’m a Little Sea Monster
(Tune: “I’m a Little Teapot”)
I’m a little sea monster strong and stout,
Here is my tail and here is my snout.
If you get me upset you watch out,
I’ll give you something to shout about.

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Page 10: Sea Horse Hand Puppet with Bubble Sound 12.5”
Blue with orange and green fins. Order Code: #GU20171, Price: $15.95  SOUND: Bubble!

Left & Cover: Dragon Silly Sox Hand Puppet 12” Long
Cranberry w/purple fins. Order Code #MM30010, Price: $7.95
Make A Splash With Special Effects!

The book, *Pea Soup and Sea Serpents* by William Schroder makes a very good short puppet play. The story follows two boys who set out in a boat, in a dense fog, looking for a sea serpent. Here we have a book of dialogue between the two boys – it’s a cinch to convert the story into a puppet show. As in the book, about halfway through the story, we show a sea serpent in the background that the boys can’t see it through the deepening fog. Here’s the neat part. At this point, the kids will start shouting at the two boys trying to point out the sea serpent and in a splash the play is interactive. The puppeteer can use a squirting water bottle to be the mist and with a spray or two in the direction of the front row the play is interactive plus!

Need more fog? Try your local ice-cream parlor or block ice supplier for DRY ICE. Get How-to Tips & Tricks for special effects with dry ice at www.dryiceinfo.com/fog.htm

For a longer Puppet Show or Reader’s Theater check out the book, *Cyrus the Unsinkable Sea Serpent* by Bill Peet. Both books mentioned lend themselves to a three-sided Lap-Box Theater with sea serpents, cut-out boats on sticks bobbing up and down. For scenery cut ocean waves, etc. from construction paper and tape to the front of the box. Lap-Box Theaters are perfect for finger puppets and you can decorate the outside to go with your story time theme!

**Penny Peck**
San Leandro Public Library, San Leandro, CA
www.infopeople.org/workshop/instructor/103

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**Fish Hand Puppet with Bubble Sound 12.5”**
Green w/purple and orange fins. *Order # GU20170, Price : $15.95*

**Sea Mates 4 Finger Puppet Set 3”**
Includes Lobster, Octopus, Sea Turtle, and Sea Horse which will work nicely as a sea serpent. *Order Code # MN116470, Price: $19.95"
Bean the Sea Serpent

A long time ago,
There lived a sea serpent named Bean,
Made of many colors,
Orange, blue and green.
He swam through the ocean,
Swimming wild and free,
Away from the fishermen,
They wanted him - you see.
Bean-
He was-
Blue and green-
Wild and free!

Cyrus the Unsinkable Sea Serpent

Cyrus was a giant sea serpent who lacked direction in life—he was something of a sissy. He finds and proves himself when he assists a shipload of immigrants, defending them against storms and pirates. Also available with cassette. By Bill Peet. Ages 9-12, 48 pages. Order #HM0395202728, Price $17.00

Rainbow Fish and the Sea Monsters’ Cave

Seeking healing algae for the ailing bumpy-backed fish, Rainbow Fish rashly volunteers to brave the dreaded Sea Monster’ Cave, the most dangerous place in the ocean. By Marcus Pfister. Age Range: 5 to 8 32pp. Order #CH9780735815360, Price: $18.95

Sir Small and the Sea Monster

Tiny Sir Small rides his trusty ant into Itty-Bitty City and immediately must rise to the challenge of rescuing the prince who, the queen fears, was taken captive by a terrible sea monster while out in his boat (a peanut shell). Beginning readers will chuckle at the final revelation: The sea monster is really a frog. By Jane O’Connor. Ages 4-8. Paperback: 32 pp. Order #RH0375825657 Paperback, Price: $3.99

Frog Puppet Set

Hungry Hops Puppet is a hungry, Green Frog with zippered mouth, with 3 tasty, colorful finger puppets inside. Order #MM46410, Price: $19.95 This product includes a FREE exclusive StoryTime Resource Guide.