

GP1630

Shell Fossil Casting Kit (Pk/24)

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**Kit may contain silicone gel packets, which should be removed before use.**

Reorder Number

GP1630

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**Shell Fossil Casting Kit (Pk/24)**

PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE STARTING



**YOUR KIT CONTAINS:**

- Plaster
- Shells
- Acetate Strips

**YOU WILL NEED:**

- Sand
- Tape
- Water
- Mixing Bowl or Bucket

**AGE GROUP: 8 and up**

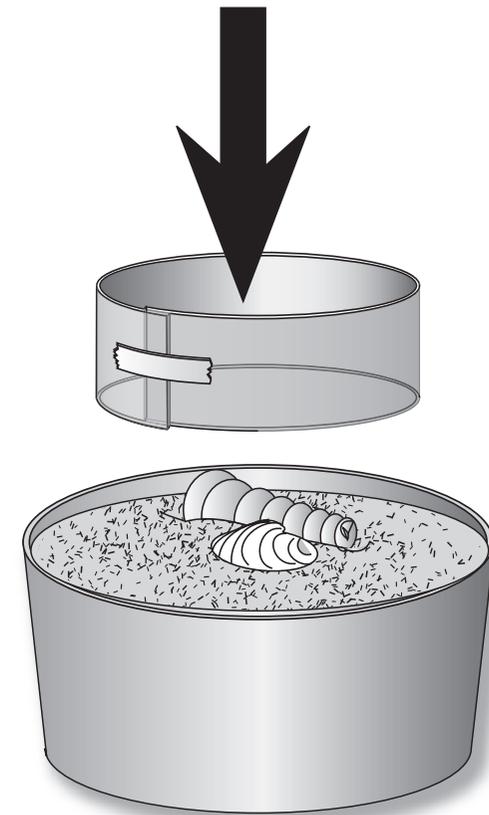
**PROJECT TIME: 30 minutes + drying time**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Using tape, secure the acetate sheet in a circle as shown in Figure A.
2. Fill a small mixing bowl with sand. Arrange a few shells in the sand face down. Press the shells into the sand so that they are about half covered. TIP: The side of the shell you want to expose when your craft is done is face down in the sand.
3. Press the acetate sheet firmly into the sand, surrounding the shells (see Figure A).
4. Mix the plaster according to the directions on the box. Pour the plaster into the acetate mold, completely covering the shells. Let dry.
5. Pull gently upward on the acetate sheet until the plaster casting is free from the sand. Remove the tape and peel the acetate away from the plaster casting.
6. Brush excess sand away from the casting. Some sand will remain.

**MORE IDEAS:**

- Use your finished casting as a paper weight by attaching a piece of felt to the bottom.
- Use a hot glue gun to attach a strong magnet or hardware to the back for hanging.
- Use an outdoor sealer to waterproof your casting to use as a garden decoration.

**FIGURE A*****DID YOU KNOW...***

The sea beds of the world contain the largest concentration of fossils on the earth. This is because the soft ground under the sea is made of rock that is composed of layers of sand and mud. When sea creatures die, they drift to the bottom of the ocean and are covered with a layer of sand. In time, a volcano or mudslide may cover the surface under which they are buried. In this way, a new layer is added, and the fossil is preserved. Therefore, fossils made in this way are sometimes referred to as "sedimentary fossils." While there are many of these fossils, they are often very hard to get to. Often, they are dug from ground that was once underwater.