



Day 2: Diving in Micronesia



Photo Credit: Mote - Eugenie Clark in Micronesia.



Day 2: Diving in Micronesia

Eugenie Clark Interactive Story Ideas!



Background scene:

Play this video in the background on a big screen, smart board or laptop.

AMAZING Diving in Palau and Micronesia, Relaxing Underwater Ambience 4K

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jlbdv4xkKIM>



Storytelling Role-Play: 5 sand dollars each

(2 Students to help cut out props and 7 students role play)

Ask 7 students to volunteer to portray Eugenie Clark graduating, a Micronesian free diver, and four sea animals from Micronesia. Have them listen for their parts. The free diver teaches Eugenie. The animals greet and interact with Eugenie when she dives.



New word: 1-5 sand dollars

Read the word and definition. Have students listen for it in the story.

Ichthyologist (ich·thy·ol·o·gist): A scientist who studies fish.

*Remind the students that they can earn a sand dollar if they tell you at the end of the story what the new word means. If they get it wrong remind them of the definition and have them try again in a few minutes.

Day 2 Eugenie Clark: Diving in Micronesia

Eugenie wakes up with a start and stares at a pile of books in front of her.

“Stayed up studying again, Eugenie?” a classmate calls. Eugenie smiles softly as she begins packing the books in her bag. She wants to study zoology, but many have told her: “You should be a secretary or a housewife. Besides, the ocean is too dangerous and scary for a woman to explore.”

She enters the science building. The soft glow of the lights inside illuminates the hallway. She is determined to pursue her studies. The ocean is full of wonderful things. But one thing in particular captivates Eugenie. She can remember the sharks at the New York Aquarium as clear as day. Eugenie studies ichthyology, a science devoted to the study of fish.

Following graduation (Graduation cap prompt, walk across the classroom and receive a rolled up paper diploma) Genie—a nickname given to her by her colleagues—is chosen to go to the faraway islands of Micronesia to study poisonous fish and sharks. This is a place that is very different from what she is used to. Soon, she makes friends with the chiefs and the native people. (Green Micronesian headband prompt, teach Genie how to free dive and fish with a spear). In Micronesia, the people don’t use dive equipment or air hoses. They freedive and use spears to catch fish. She learns to freedive and to spearfish like the locals.



Photo Credit: Mote - Eugenie Clark in Micronesia.

Day 2 Eugenie Clark: Diving in Micronesia

She learns about the local ecosystems. (Nudibranch, unicorn fish, giant clam and sea turtle prompt, animals swim around and Genie studies them). She catches fish, putting them in jars to examine them. (Jar prompt, catch the fish one at a time and put them in, study them and release). Then she draws pictures in her journal and writes down all her observations. She later writes a bestselling book called *Lady with a Spear*.

After her research in Micronesia, Genie takes a job at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in California and goes out on a boat to learn how to scuba dive. She puts on all the scuba diving equipment and dives into the ocean.

While she is deep under the water the hose giving her oxygen breaks. Genie is gasping for air! It is very frightening, but she is able to get the helmet off and float to the surface. She is helped onto the boat and while she rests, the instructors fix the air hose and encourage her to try again. Genie is courageous and tries again. She dives again and again and again!

Next, she goes to another place across the world. She goes to Egypt, exploring and studying the fish in the Red Sea. She catches fish, examines them under her microscope, and journals about them.



Questions/Reading discussion: 1-5 sand dollars

Ask: What did Eugenie learn from the local people in Micronesia?

Example: She learned how to free dive without equipment and fish with a spear.

Ask: How did Eugenie remember all the fish she saw on her expeditions?

Example: She drew pictures and wrote notes in her journal about the fish she saw.

Ask: How do you think she felt when everyone tried to discourage her from ichthyology?

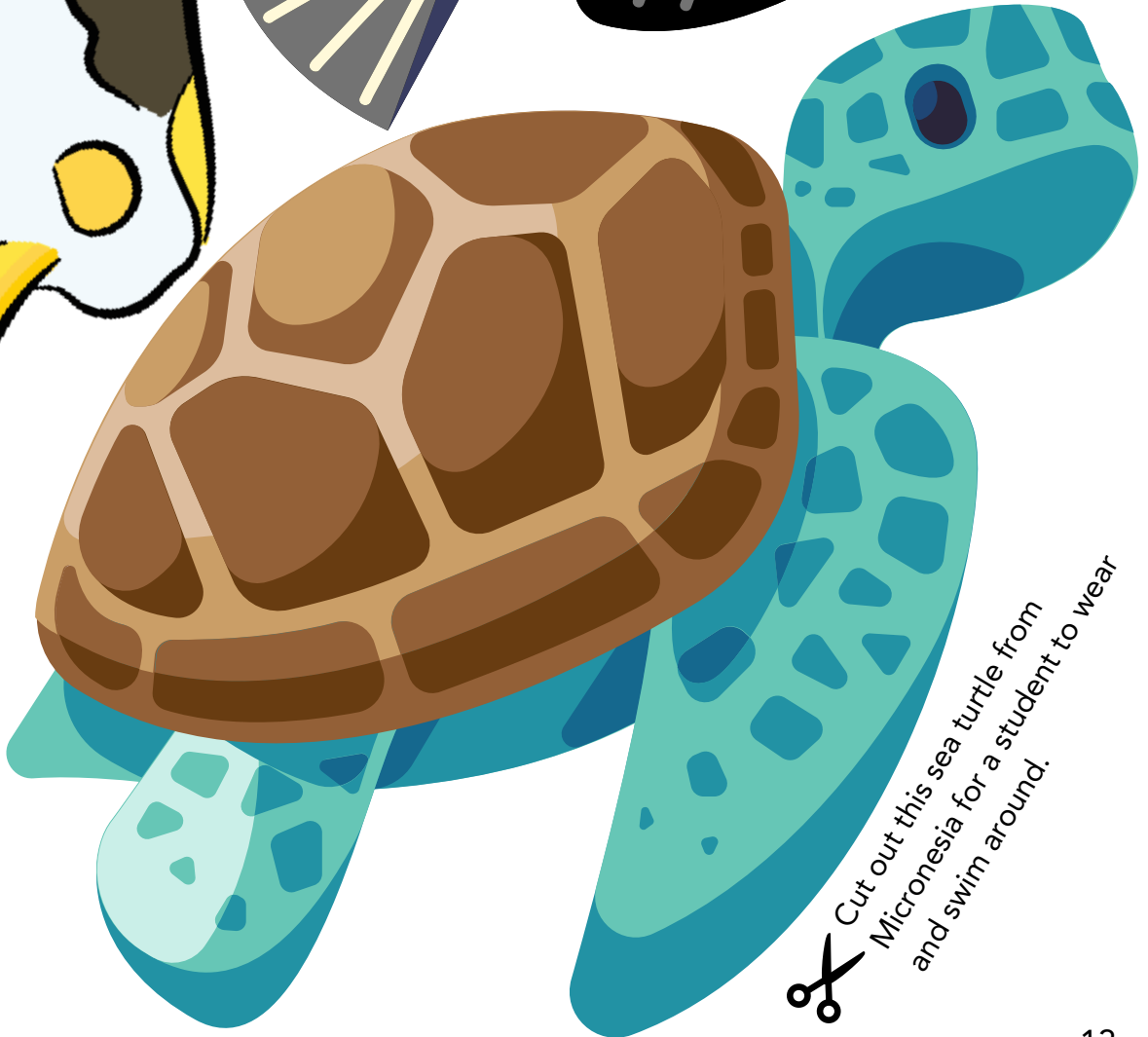
Example: I think it probably made her feel a little discouraged, but maybe it made her want to study even more.

Ask: Do you think scuba diving is easier than free diving? Why or why not? What would you like to try?

Answers will vary and there isn't necessarily a right or wrong answer here. Allow students time to discuss and exchange their points of view and reasoning.



Cut out this nudibranch and unicornfish from Micronesia for students to be.



Cut out this sea turtle from Micronesia for a student to wear and swim around.

Unicorn fish: Swim towards Genie and let her admire your horn!

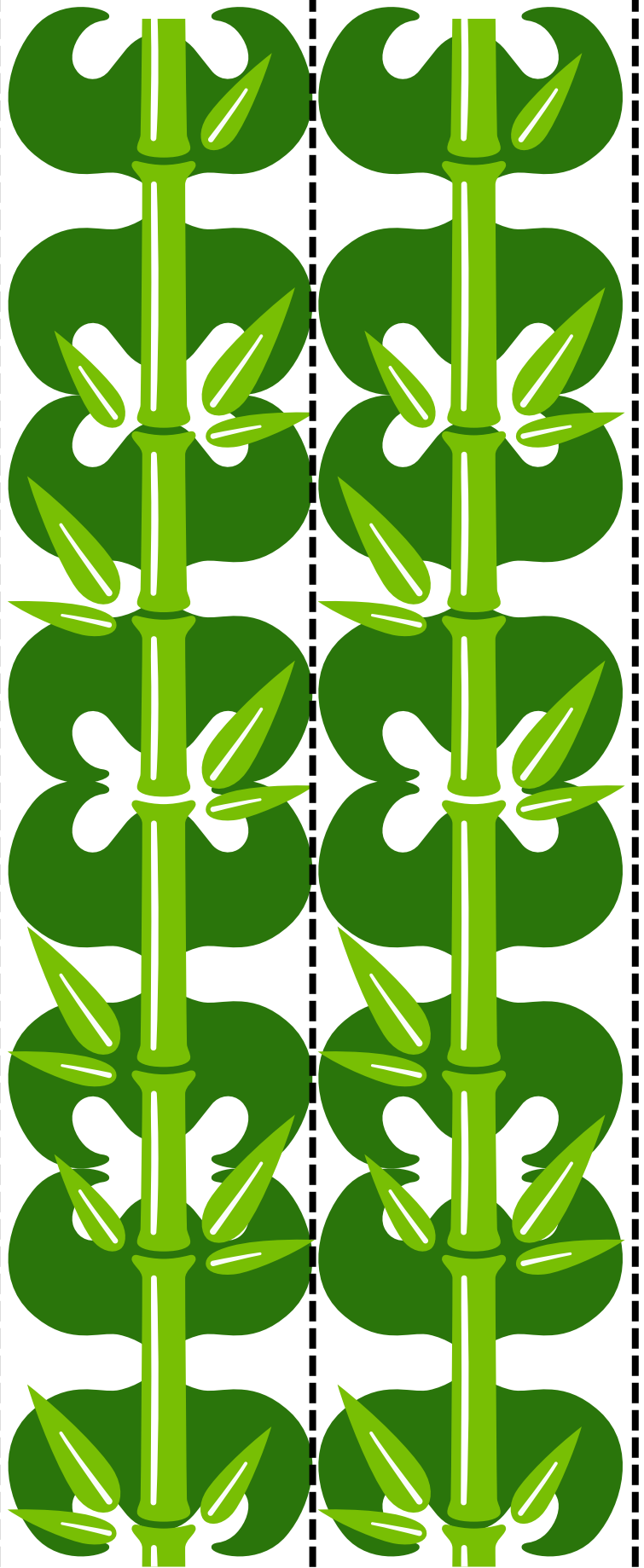
Nudibranch:
Ooze and move towards Genie like a snail and show off your beautiful pattern.

Sea Turtle: Swim happily all around

Cut out both pieces of this headband and tape together for the student playing the boy from Micronesia to wear.



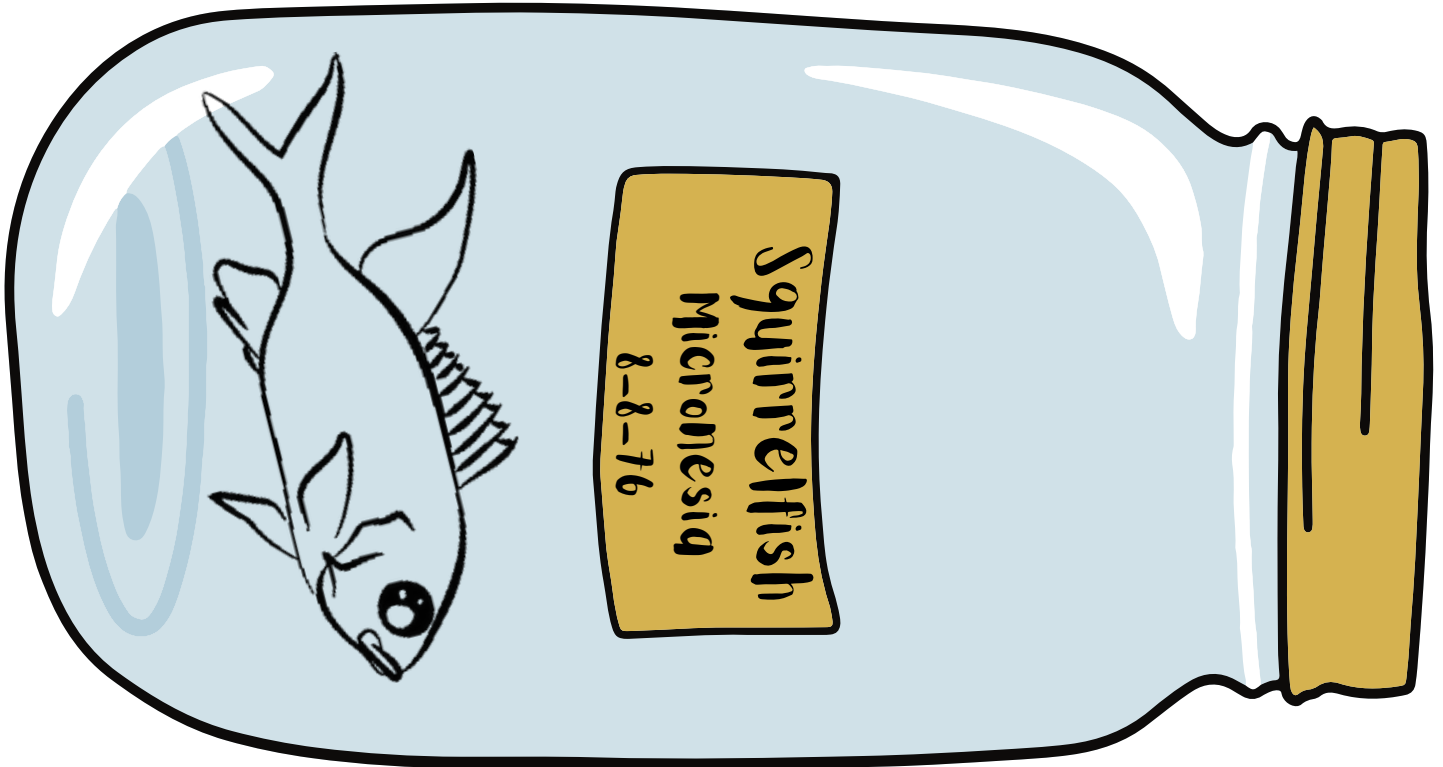
Cut out this graduation cap and roll up a paper for a diploma for a student



**Micronesian
native:** Put on
this headband.
Teach Genie to
fish with a spear
and dive without
gear.

Genie: Graduate
and receive your
scroll! Throw your
hat in the air
triumphantly!

✂ Cut out this collection jar for a student to hold and pretend to catch fish with.



Cut out this giant clam from Micronesia for a student to be.

Genie: Use this jar to collect fish and study them. Make your observations and let them go.

Clam: Come towards Genie and let her study you.