

BATTERY SAFETY INFORMATION

- Only adults should install and replace batteries.
- Switch toy off before opening battery compartment.
- Insert batteries correctly. Match positive + and negative - signs. Incorrect insertion can damage the unit, provoke fire or cause batteries to explode.
- Alkaline batteries are recommended for best performance.
- Rechargeable batteries are not recommended.
- If rechargeable batteries are used, they are only to be charged under adult supervision.
- Rechargeable batteries are to be removed from the product before they are charged.
- Do not recharge non-rechargeable batteries.
- Only use the batteries specified.
- Only batteries of the same or equivalent type as recommended are to be used.
- Do not mix different types of batteries: alkaline, standard (carbon-zinc), lithium or rechargeable (nickel-cadmium).
- Do not mix old and new batteries.
- Remove dead or exhausted batteries.
- Remove the batteries during long periods of non-use.
- Always remove exhausted batteries from the toy.
- Battery leakage and corrosion can damage this product.
- Dispose of batteries safely, following the guidelines in your area. Recycle where available.
- Do not dispose of batteries in a fire or attempt to open the outer casing.
- Never short-circuit the battery terminals.
- Do not immerse battery-operated toys in water. Wipe clean only.

**Uncle
Milton.**

Problems? Before taking this product back to the store, please call us. We can help!
1-888-742-2484 or go to www.unclemilton.com

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Instruction Manual



Please note: Fish and fish food should be obtained after your aquarium is set up.
KEEP THESE INSTRUCTIONS FOR FUTURE REFERENCE - DO NOT DISCARD

CAUTION: ELECTRICALLY OPERATED TOY.

Not recommended for children under 8 years of age. As with all electrical products, precautions should be observed during handling and use to prevent electric shock.

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Your Shark Reef Includes:

- Aquarium tank
- Three 3-D sharks: great white, tiger and hammerhead
- Pump and air line tubing
- Detailed ocean reef scenery
- Under-gravel filtration system
- LED-illuminated environment

Welcome to the World of Shark Reef

Your new aquarium will provide you with many hours of fascinating underwater viewing. But before you dive in, please read these instructions and keep them for future reference.

Some Supplies You Will Need

You will need a few items that can be found at your local pet store or supermarket. Some items are required and some are optional.

These are required for proper maintenance of your aquarium:

- Cellulose kitchen sponge
- Small kitchen ladle
- One-gallon container

This is optional, but recommended for a healthier aquarium:

- Aquarium water conditioner
- Aquarium gravel

And after you set up your new aquarium:

- Fish
- Fish food

Here are the Details:

Cellulose kitchen sponge: This will be used for wiping off the algae that forms on the inside walls. The aquarium sponge should NEVER be used for anything but your aquarium! NEVER use chemicals or detergents, as they will likely be fatal to your fish. It is equally important to use a sponge that will not scratch the aquarium. For these reasons we recommend you purchase a new 100% cellulose kitchen sponge. Make sure it contains no germ-killing or odor-resistant additives, and that it is without a scrub pad. Rinse the sponge thoroughly in plain warm water before its first use and after every use.

Please note: Fish and fish food should be obtained after your aquarium is set up.
Requires 3 "AAA" batteries (not included).

KEEP THESE INSTRUCTIONS FOR FUTURE REFERENCE - DO NOT DISCARD

Small kitchen ladle and one-gallon container: These will be used during regular cleaning. Your aquarium includes a built-in under-gravel filter plate, air pump and air line tubing. These features will keep the water continuously filtered, circulated, and aerated (and you will have the very cool effect of the bubbles rising from the underwater volcano). This creates a healthy environment for your fish and makes cleaning and maintenance easier for you too!

Aquarium water conditioner: This helps make the water extra safe for your fish. There are many types of water conditioners available. Ask the pet store sales clerk which water conditioner works best. At the very least, it should remove chlorine, chloramines, and ammonia.

Fish and fish food: Should be obtained **after** your aquarium is set up.

IMPORTANT SAFEGUARDS FOR PARENTS:

This product should be periodically examined for conditions that may result in the risk of fire, electric shock or injury to persons and that in an event of such conditions, the product should not be used until properly repaired.

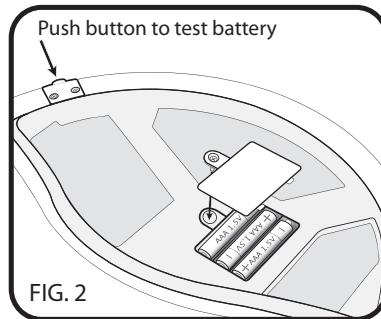
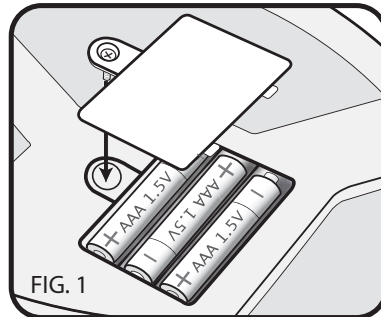
Installing the Batteries

1. With no water or fish in your Shark Reef aquarium, lay the Shark Reef tank gently on its side. Use a Phillips head screwdriver to remove the battery door.

2. Insert 3 "AAA" (1.5V) batteries. Make sure the "+" and "-" ends are inserted correctly, as indicated in the battery compartment. (See Fig. 1.)

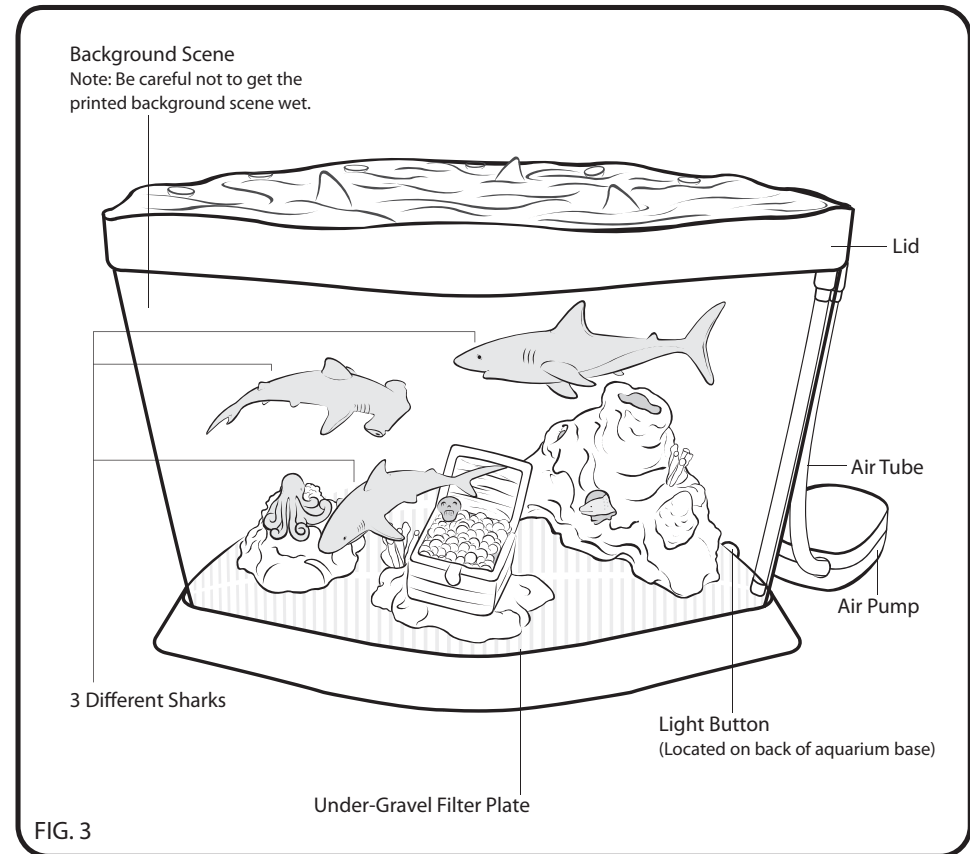
3. Replace the battery door and tighten the screw, being careful not to overtighten.

4. Test the battery installation and lights by pressing the button on the back right side of the tank's base. Push the button once to turn the lights on, and press again to turn them off. (See Fig. 2.)



Setting Up Your Aquarium

Let's begin to set up your aquarium. The final result will look like Figure 3.



IMPORTANT: Adult supervision is required when setting up aquarium.

1. Thoroughly rinse the inside of the aquarium and the lid with tap water two times. **DO NOT USE DETERGENT.** Use caution not to get the aquarium base, battery compartment or light button wet.
2. Place your aquarium on a sturdy shelf or table that is not likely to get bumped or shaken and away from bright light. Also, try to keep it out of reach of a curious cat or dog. Fish are not comfortable with unexpected intruders, even if they are well-intentioned. Make sure the location is near a wall outlet so you can plug in the air pump.

3. Install the sharks by inserting the small plug at the end of the string into the corresponding hole in the base. Each shark has a specific location. (See Fig. 4.) Once the aquarium is filled with water, the sharks will float.

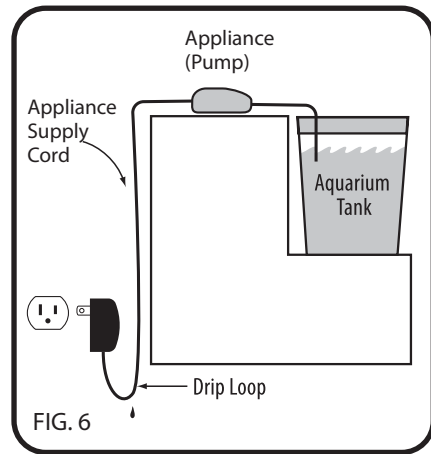
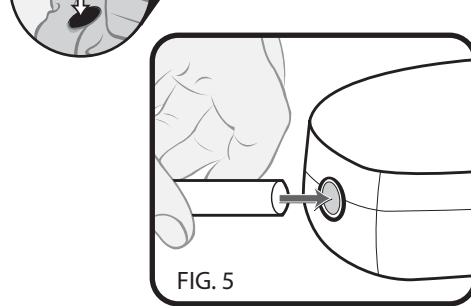
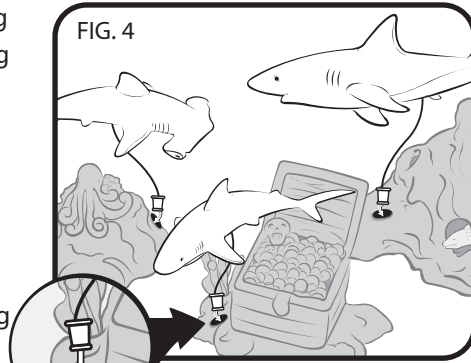
4. Attach the exterior air tube to the output port on the air pump. (See Fig. 5.)

To avoid the possibility of the appliance plug or power outlet getting wet, position aquarium stand and tank to one side of a wall receptacle. A “drip loop” configuration, shown in Figure 6, should be used. The “drip loop” is that part of the cord below the level of the outlet, or the connector if an extension cord is used, to prevent water traveling along the cord and coming in contact with the outlet.

5. OPTIONAL*—Slowly pour gravel into the aquarium. Avoid pouring too fast or from too high a distance, as bouncing gravel can scratch the tank. Be sure to use enough so that all of the slots of the under-gravel filter are covered by about 1/4 of an inch of gravel. (*Aquarium gravel not included.)

6. Slowly fill the aquarium with tap water about one inch below the tank rim. DO NOT overfill the aquarium.

7. Leaving the lid off, add water conditioner if you've opted to use it. (See **Maintaining Your Aquarium** for details.) Be sure to use the proper amount specified in the water conditioner's directions for a half gallon of water.



8. Make sure your hands are dry, and plug the air pump into the power outlet to begin circulation in the aquarium. The pump needs to build-up pressure to work, so be patient. If you hear excessive vibration, it is likely the air pump is not on a solid surface or is not sitting level.

9. With the air pump running and the lid removed, let the aquarium sit for 24 hours. This will allow the water temperature to stabilize, allow chlorine to escape and let the optional water conditioner remove any harmful chemicals from the water.

10. After 24 hours, replace the lid and make sure all parts are securely in place.

Selecting Your Fish

Recommended: Betta (siamese fighting fish) This freshwater fish of Southeast Asia is exotic and beautiful. You can keep only one betta in the aquarium, since two or more will fight. For other types of fish, please consult a pet store for fish guidelines.

When purchasing your fish, it is important to purchase suitable fish food at the same time. Ask the pet store sales clerk for assistance. The sales clerk will also show you how much to feed your fish each day. NEVER OVERFEED YOUR FISH! This will create too much waste in your aquarium, which could negatively affect the health of your fish.

Adding a Fish to Your Aquarium

1. Carefully remove the lid.
2. Float the unopened plastic bag containing the fish in the aquarium for 15 minutes. This will equalize the temperature slowly and will avoid shocking the fish.
3. Open the bag and pour a little of the aquarium water into the bag. Let it sit for an additional 5 minutes. This will allow the fish to further acclimate to the water.
4. Now you can gently release the fish into the aquarium.
5. Replace the lid, making sure it is securely in place.

Feeding Your Fish

Check with the pet store sales clerk for exact amounts to feed your type of fish. REMEMBER TO NEVER OVERFEED YOUR FISH!

DANGER: To prevent electric shock, never immerse air pump in water.
Air pump is rated 120 Volts AC, 60 Hz, 1.5 W. U.L. LISTED PUMP

Maintaining Your Aquarium

It's important to clean your aquarium regularly. Follow the instructions below for regular maintenance and you will keep algae growth to a minimum.

Every two weeks (or as needed): Clean the inside of the tank. Gently wipe the inside walls with the cellulose sponge until all or most of the algae is gone. Be careful not to scratch the inside of the clear walls.

Once a month: Do a partial water change. Fish love nothing more than clean, fresh water. However, too much of a good thing can be fatal. Follow these steps and your fish will be happy and healthy:

1. Let approximately 1/2 gallon tap water sit in an open, clean one-gallon container overnight. (Optional: Add water conditioner to the aquarium, according to the conditioner's directions for 1/2 gallon of water.)
2. Do not remove the fish.
3. OPTIONAL*—Gently stir the gravel to release trapped dirt. (*Aquarium gravel not included.)
4. Using a small kitchen ladle, scoop out approximately 1/2 gallon of the dirty water and dispose. (Avoid scooping out your fish!)
5. Slowly pour the water that you had sitting overnight to about one (1) inch below the tank rim. DO NOT overfill the aquarium.
6. Don't worry about floating dirt that may be left behind. It will eventually settle to the gravel.

Periodically: Maintain the water level. Keep a container of water near the aquarium at all times. When you notice the water level has lowered, you can add the room temperature water, filling to about one (1) inch below the tank rim. (Optional: Add a couple of drops of water conditioner as specified on the label to the newly-added water.)

Keeping Algae Growth Under Control

Expect algae to grow in your aquarium. Algae growth is natural; algae appear in all healthy aquariums. You will see some green algae growing on most surfaces of your aquarium, including the walls, rocks and plants. You can control the growth of algae by following these simple rules:

- **Do not place your aquarium in direct sunlight.** A low-lit corner of the room is the best place to keep the aquarium. Excessive artificial light speeds algae growth, so keep it away from continuous bright lighting.
- **Do not overfeed your fish.** Excess food and fish waste in the water provides nutrients for unwanted algae.
- **Clean your aquarium regularly.** Follow the **Maintaining Your Aquarium** instructions for regular maintenance, and you will keep algae growth to a minimum.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q) Why is my aquarium cloudy?

A) A new aquarium can be cloudy for the first 7 to 10 days. If the cloudiness persists, you may be overfeeding. Don't overfeed your fish!

Q) Why does my fish always act hungry?

A) In the wild, fish feed on small amounts of food over many hours. In an aquarium, this is not a feasible way to feed them. Because we feed them only twice per day they quickly forget the last meal and are looking for the next. As a responsible pet owner you must realize what is best for them and stick to their diet.

Q) What happens if I feed my fish too much food?

A) Overfeeding causes excess waste in your aquarium and will upset the pH balance in your water. This could negatively affect the health of your fish.

Q) Why do I need to let water sit for 24 hours before using?

A) Tap water often contains chlorine, which is harmful to fish. Letting the water sit allows chlorine to escape out, and brings it to room temperature. (Aquarium water conditioner further clears the water of harmful chemicals.)

Q) Why does the water I add need to be at room temperature?

A) Adding water that is the same temperature as the water in the aquarium is much less stressful to your fish than adding water straight out of the tap.

Q) Can I use any old sponge to clean my aquarium?

A) No. The wrong sponge will scratch the viewing surface. Even a new sponge can have chemicals in it that, although not harmful to you, are very harmful to your fish. Be sure to rinse out the sponge before and after using.

Q) What is “helpful bacteria”?

A) Helpful bacteria are microscopic creatures that attach themselves to all the aquarium surfaces. Helpful bacteria use the fish waste as a food source and work in a symbiotic relationship with your fish. This means that the fish and the helpful bacteria work together in a natural process known as the nitrogen cycle.

Q) Okay, so what’s the “nitrogen cycle”?

A) Well, if you really must know, here’s how it works: fish waste and excess food can create toxins, such as ammonia and nitrate, that are harmful to fish. The helpful bacteria break the waste down into relatively harmless stuff known as nitrate. Nitrate builds up in the aquarium and in high quantity can become harmful to your fish. For this reason, it is important to do regular water changes as described above. A well-filtered aquarium helps remove nitrate faster, creating a healthier environment for your fish. (You can even use the old nitrate-rich water for houseplants – it makes a great fertilizer!)

Q) Do I need to disconnect my air pump when I do the monthly partial water change?

A) Yes.

Q) Do I need to remove the water to change the batteries?

A) Yes. Remove water, fish, and pump from aquarium when replacing batteries.

Further Reading About Aquatic Life

Your school or public library has lots of good books about freshwater and saltwater fish, sharks, and other aquatic life. The Internet also offers many great websites on the subjects. Check them all out. It will make your undersea Shark Reef explorations all the more rewarding!