

# CRAFT: Marine Iguana

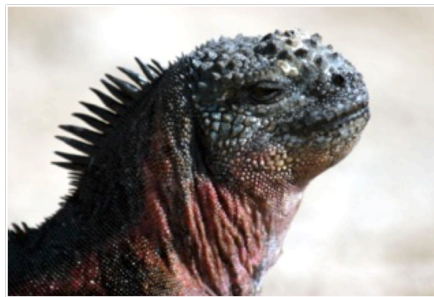
## Galapagos Marine Iguanas

by Stephanie M. Ward

Marine Iguanas are a fierce-looking, but fascinating reptile unique to the Galapagos Islands.

Marine Iguanas can grow over 5.5 feet (1.7 m) long and weigh more than three pounds (1.5 kg). They have the unique ability to dive over 30 feet into the water and use their strong tail to glide through the water. Marine Iguanas can be found clinging to rocks with their long claws or sunning themselves on the beach.

In *Wally the Warm-Weather Penguin*, two marine iguanas clash in a fight for the best spot on the rocks.



So let's make our own...



### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Wally is an Emperor Penguin from Antarctica who isn't exactly like the other penguins. Wally is always cold and dreams of life on a tropical island. When Wally learns about the Galapagos Islands, he sets sail in search of warm weather and discovers an amazing world of tap-dancing crabs, racing hundred-year-old tortoises and diving birds with blue feet.

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# Step-by-Step Instructions

This simple craft is easily completed in a short time, but allows for children to customize their creations. Creepy crawler or smiling reptile, it's up to you!

## Step 1: What You'll Need

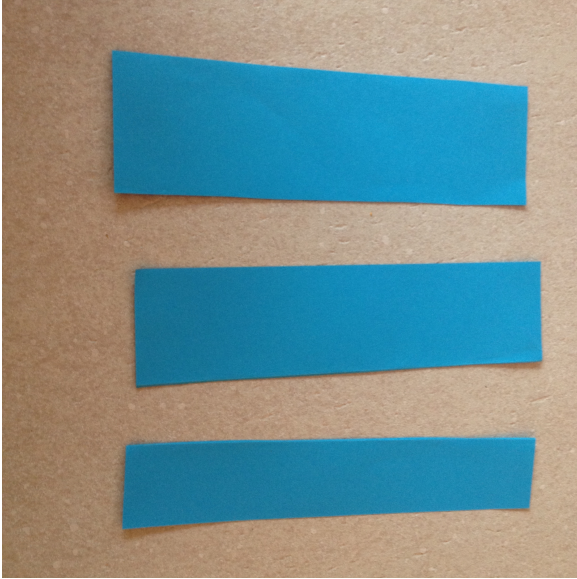
- Scissors
- Marker
- Glue Stick
- Construction Paper (A6 or 4" x 6")



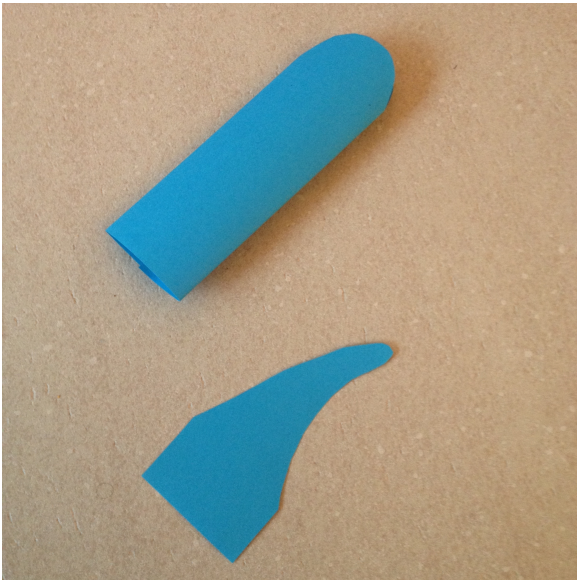
Step 2: Fold one piece of construction paper, lengthwise to form a long rectangle. Then glue together to form the body. Round off one end to create the face and mouth of your marine iguana.



Step 3: Cut one sheet of construction paper into three strips, one slightly wider than the other two. One will be the tail, one the scales, one the hands and feet. (But don't worry, you have an extra sheet if you can't make all of these from one page!)

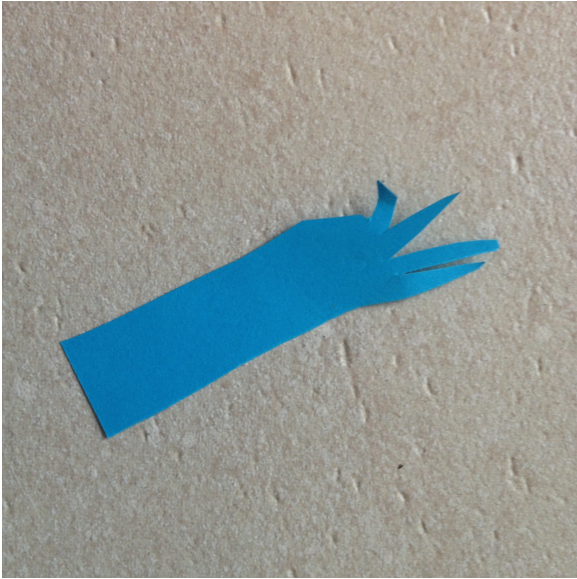


Step 4: Cut out a tail from the slightly wider strip -- either straight or curved -- but keep one end wide so you have enough of an edge to glue it to the body and make sure it sticks.

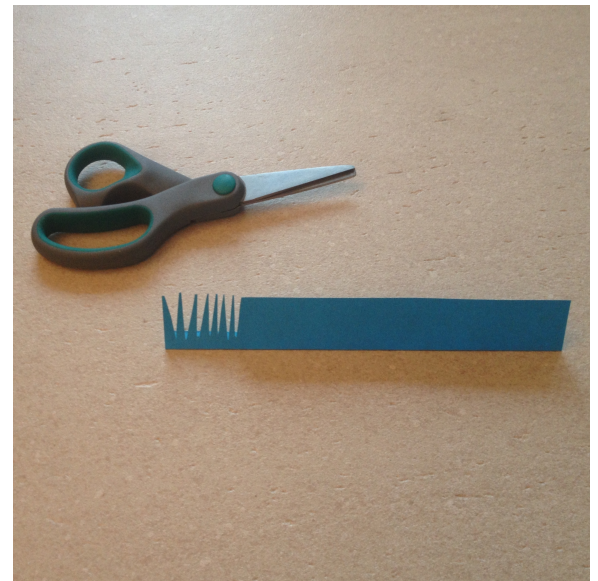
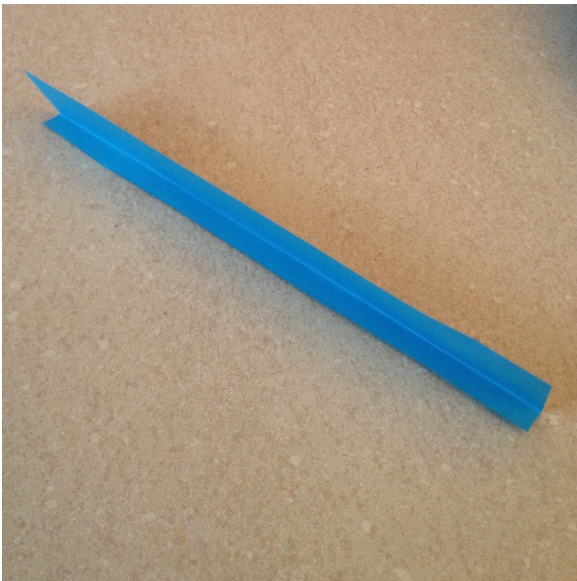


Now it's starting to look like a reptile!

Step 5: Cut out arms and legs. Make them as long, pointy and creepy as you'd like. Angle the front arms toward the front and the back legs toward the rear.



Step 6: Crease one narrow strip of construction paper so you have a thin area to glue to the back of your marine iguana so the spikes stand up. Then carefully cut as many thin, spiny spikes as you can.



Note: Younger children can make larger, dragon-like spikes or an adult can pre-cut some of these peices if time or safety is an issue.

Step 7: Glue the spine to the back of the marine iguana. The spiny part should extend to part of the tail, leaving room for the face. Using the marker, add two eyes and two slits for the nose. Marine Iguanas spew saltwater out of their snouts when they swim and fight, so don't forget to add a nose!



Finished! You've just made a Galapagos Island Marine Iguana! Compare it to the fighting marine iguanas in Wally the Warm-Weather Penguin and find out what Wally does when he meets them.



\*This craft idea was inspired by activities in the wonderful book, Alphabet Art by Judy Press. Available on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).\*