

Fish Tale



Here's a child's bath that is guaranteed to make a splash.

This wet and wild combination uses a range of Studio Finishes™ effects, from Glow in the Dark, to Glitter to Glaze, to create an undersea wonder world. Alternating shades of blue move in waves across the wall, while colorful fish swim behind the sink. When the lights are off, the sea creatures shed a gentle glow; when the lights are on, a thin coat of glitter gives the scene a subtle sparkle.

The project is far less complicated than it appears: the waves are simply rolled on in layers, while the fish and bubbles are created with easy homemade stamps. And the look is as practical as it is playful: the glazed surface holds up well to splashes and spills, and can be sponged clean.

In these aquatic surroundings, what kid wouldn't look forward to bath-time?

What You'll Need

Supplies:

- 3" roller, brushes, tray
- bucket and mixing sticks
- kitchen sponges or upholstery foam
- plastic plates or clean, empty pizza box
- scissors or craft knife
- newspaper

Paint:

- For wall: Regal® AquaPearl® 310 in White (01)
- For waves: Regal® AquaPearl® 310 in Poolside Blue (2048-40), Blue Suede Shoes (798), Americana (770), Poseidon (664), Calming Green (605), Clearlake (738) and Spring Breeze (603).
- For fish: Regal® AquaPearl® 310 in Pink Ladies (1347), Sweet Pea (2031-30), Oxford Gold (315), Razzle Dazzle (1348), and Piñata (007).
- Studio Finishes™ Glaze effect
- Studio Finishes™ Glitter effect
- Studio Finishes™ Glow in the Dark effect

Step-by-Step Instructions

Step 1: Prime wall if necessary (always prime over new construction, old or damaged walls or a deep base color).

Step 2: Roll on white base coat. Let dry overnight.

Step 3: Mix small amounts of each blue with Studio Finishes™ Glaze effect, following the proportions on the can.

Step 4: Start at the base of the wall. Gently roll on the first "wave" of blue, using a 3" roller (in general, use the deepest colors at the bottom, working up to lighter shades at the top).

Step 5: Roll on the subsequent waves, working up toward the ceiling. Allow wall to dry thoroughly.

Step 6: Make your stamps. Trace or draw the fish shapes directly onto a large piece of upholstery foam. Cut out with scissors or craft knife. Round bubble stamps can be made from foam or plain kitchen sponges.

Step 7: Pour a small amount of your fish color in a plastic plate or clean, empty pizza box. Dip the stamp in the paint, dab off any excess on a sheet of newspaper, and press against the wall, taking care not to smear.

Step 8: Stamp on the bubbles, using various colors of your choice. Allow the shapes to dry. When fish are dry, outline details such as fins and tails with a small artist's brush and colors of your choice.

Step 9: For fish that glow in the dark, simply brush or sponge on Studio Finishes™ Glow in the Dark effect over the stamped shapes. The more coats of Glow in the Dark used, the stronger the glow; therefore, tailor the amount to how much "glow" you want to achieve. When using multi-coats, be sure to allow the previous coat to dry thoroughly, approximately 2 to 3 hours.

Step 10: When the wall is entirely dry, roll on a light coat of Studio Finishes™ Glitter effect over the painted surface. Use a regular pattern of long up-and-down strokes. Take care not to over-roll: should you roll over the same wall area twice, you will end up with twice the amount of glitter in that one area. Allow to dry.