

Mondays at the Museum

(at home!)

This week we are looking at **flying fish**.

Below is a picture of a tallfin flyingfish from our new exhibition *Capturing Nature: early photography at the Australian Museum 1857-1893*.



Image: Tallfin Flyingfish, *Cheilopogon pinnatibarbatus*. Photo © Australian Museum

This flyingfish was probably caught in Sydney in the 1870s. A flyingfish doesn't really fly, but it uses its large fins to carry it further through the air when it jumps from the water. It usually does this to avoid being caught by predators.

Flying fish

What you'll need:	Substitute
Toilet roll	Piece of flexible cardboard rolled into a cylinder
Tissue paper	Coloured paper, Easter egg wrappers, pages from old magazines, used wrapping paper
Stick-on eyes	Googly eyes, pen to draw eyes
Glue stick	Other types of glue

Instructions



1 Cut even sized circles from your coloured paper for the fish scales. Circles about 4-5cm wide are ideal.



2 Cut about 7-10 strips of coloured paper. Strips about 1-1.5cm wide and 10-12cm long are ideal.



3 Begin by making the tail. Put a bit of glue around one end of your toilet roll and stick your long strips of paper on so they hang off the bottom of the roll.



4 Next glue on the scales. Starting near the tail, glue your circles of coloured paper in an overlapping pattern. Continue until the entire roll is covered.



5 Stick or draw your eyes on the top end of your fish.



6 Have you got extra toilet rolls and coloured paper? Make some more to create a school of flying fish!



Extra Time:

1. The flyingfish you just made doesn't have large fins like the fish in the photograph on the first page. Can you add fins to your fish that would help it fly?

2. Look at the photograph of the fish. Can you find these parts of the fish:

Eyes

Tail

Fins

Gills

Mouth

3. Can you name any other animals that can fly? See if you can think of any that aren't birds.