
Setting Up Your Tank

Instructions for setting up your tank:

1. Check each component of your tank system to make sure nothing is broken.
2. Select a spot away from the windows in your classroom. You will also wish to avoid other areas of extreme heat or cold, such as heating/air conditioning vents or near un-insulated outer walls.
3. Rinse the tank and the gravel. Pour the gravel into the tank and evenly distribute it on the floor of the tank.
4. Read the instructions that come with the heater. Install the heater on the back wall of the tank, horizontally near the floor of the tank, but not touching the gravel.
5. Place the stick-on thermometer on the outside of the tank at a height easy for the children to read. Near the top, below the waterline is a good place.
6. If you wish to add decorative items to your tank, do so now. Be sure to rinse them well before installing them in the gravel. If you wish to add a decorative backdrop on the outside of the tank, do so now.
7. Read the instructions for installing the filters, pump and hood. Make certain the intake tube on the filter is clear of the gravel.
8. Fill the tank with regular tap water. Do not be tempted to purchase water for this purpose as tap water works just fine.
9. Be careful to follow the safety tips for securing all the electrical plugs around so much water!
10. Once you're confident all the equipment is securely attached and the cords are safely placed, plug everything in.
11. Your next step will be to follow the steps for cycling your tank.

