

Summer Crafts

Paper Boat

Materials:

A piece of letter-sized paper

**Directions:**

Put a rectangular piece of paper in front of you with a short side at the top. Fold the top edge down to meet the bottom edge and crease. Fold the left side to meet the right side, crease, and then unfold at that crease.

Fold the top left and right corners down to meet at the middle and crease, like you're making a paper airplane. There are 2 strips of paper below the 2 triangles you just made. Fold the top strip up and crease, then turn paper over and repeat.

Rotate the paper so the point of the triangle is on one side. Pick it up and open the triangle, keeping your thumbs inside. As you open it up, it will flatten into a diamond shape. Tuck in stray flaps, if any, and crease.

Fold one bottom point up to meet the top point of the diamond, crease, then turn paper over and repeat. As you did above, rotate the triangle and open it, flattening into a diamond shape. Pick up the diamond and gently pull both sides apart a bit. Continue to pull them apart. When they won't pull apart any more, flatten into a canoe shape. Watch a [video](#) for a helpful visual tutorial.

Felt Flower Lei

Materials:

Scissors
Glue stick
2 drinking straws, cut into 10 (1") pieces
2 or 3 sheets of felt in bright colors
Tapestry needle
1 yard of yarn
10 pony beads



Directions:

Draw 10 flower outlines, each about 1 ½" across, on the felt. Cut them out. Thread the needle with the yarn and alternate stringing felt flowers, pony beads, and the straw pieces. Place the garland around your neck and tie a bow in the back.

Sea Star Sand Cast

Materials:

Sand
Plaster of Paris
Water
5 (3"-long) twigs
Assorted shells
Stiff bristled paintbrushes
4-cup measuring cup
Spoon



Directions:

If sand is dry, mist it with a spray bottle or sprinkle it with handfuls of water. Get the sand evenly moist by spreading and mixing with your hands. Form a 6" diameter circle, about 2" deep; this will be your mold. Smooth the floor of the mold with your hand and pat it down gently.

Place the twigs into the circle, pressing down firmly, but gently, forming a star shape. You do not want any plaster to seep underneath them.

Arrange the sea shells face down in the sand, pressing in firmly, but gently.

Mix 3 cups of plaster with 1 ½ cups of water in 4-cup measuring cup. Stir mixture well until creamy; be sure to remove all lumps. Slowly pour the plaster mixture into the sand mold. You do not want to pour it too quickly or you may disturb the placement of your objects.

Allow plaster to dry for at least an hour to let it harden. Carefully dig around the edges of your mold with the spoon and gently loosen and lift the plaster cast. Let the sand casting dry for another hour. Use stiff bristled paintbrushes to remove the excess sand.

Rock Pets**Materials:**

Rock

Acrylic craft paint

White craft glue

Suggested decorations: yarn, googly eyes, markers, glitter glue, sequins, beads, pompoms

**Directions:**

Wash your rock with warm soapy water. Decorate your rocks however you like using just about anything. If it will stick, use it! When projects are completely dry, spray with acrylic sealer spray.

Sand Filled Bottles

Materials:

Sand
Newspaper
Wax paper
Colored chalk
Clear glass or plastic bottles
Stick or pencil
Bottle cap
Cutting board



Directions:

Cover the work surface with newspaper. Place a sheet of wax paper on a cutting board. Place some sand on the wax paper. Roll a piece of colored chalk across the sand until the sand is completely changed to that color.

Carefully lift the wax paper and gently shake the sand to the center of the wax paper. Hold both ends of the paper up to use as a spout to pour the colored sand into the bottle. You can use a funnel if you find it easier.

Use a stick or the eraser end of a pencil to make a few dips in the sand to form interesting layers. Repeat these steps until you have several colors of sand layered in your bottle. If you have a cap for your bottle, be sure to fill it completely with sand and press down firmly on the sand to compact it. Place cap on tight.

Sand Candle

Materials:

Large heat-proof mixing bowl

Sand

Empty 1-pound coffee can

Paraffin or old candle stubs

Candle wicking

Thin wood dowel or stick



Directions:

Fill the bowl $\frac{3}{4}$ full of slightly damp sand and dig a mold about the size of a coffee mug. Bend one side of the coffee can rim to form a spout. Fill the can halfway with paraffin and set it in a saucepan that's $\frac{1}{4}$ filled with water. Melt the wax over very low heat.

Cut the wicking to 6" - 8" longer than your mold is deep. Rest the dowel across the bowl's top and tie one end of the wick around it. Press the other end into the bottom of the mold.

Carefully pour the wax into the mold until it reaches about 1" from the top. Once the candle is cool, remove it from the mold, brush off any excess sand, and trim the wick.

Macramé Bracelet

Materials:

Hemp cord

Scissors

Tape

Beads

Button



Directions:

To make a bracelet, you need 2 strands of hemp, one twice as long as the other (an 80" and a 40" length should fit most wrists). Fold each strand in half. Hold the two midpoints together and tie a loop with them. Hang the loop over a nail, use a clip board or tape it to a board. You should now have 4 strands; put the shorter 2 in the middle.

Lay the left outside strand over the middle 2 strands, then under the right outside strand.

Bring the outside right strand under the middle 2 strands and up through the loop of the 4 strands. Pull the ends of the outside strands tight. This is the basic knot. To continue, simply alternate the side from which you start the knot.

To add a bead, slip it onto the middle 2 strands and then continue to knot. When your bracelet is done, slip a 4-holed button onto the four strands (one strand in each hole), knot each strand end, and snip off any extra hemp. Slip the button through the loop at the other end to close the bracelet. Watch a [video tutorial](#) here for extra help.