

CRYSTAL SEASHELLS

SUPPLIES:

Borax Powder
Water (3 cups)
Measuring Cups and Tablespoon (needed from home)
Spoon
Mason Jars
Seashells



DIRECTIONS:

1. Boil Water
2. Add 3-4 Tablespoons of borax powder per 1 cup of water.

I would make a 3-cup solution to get started if you are going to do several seashells. When you are mixing the solution, you will still see a tiny bit of the powder floating around and settling to the bottom. That means it's saturated!

3. Place your seashells in glass containers {glass prevents the solution from cooling down too quickly}
4. Add the solution to the glass containers and make sure to completely cover the shells.
5. Put it aside and observe what happens.

THE SCIENCE OF GROWING BORAX CRYSTALS

When the borax is mixed with hot water, it remains as solid particles in the water. As the water cools, the particles settle and form the crystals. As the solution cools down, the water molecules come back together forcing the particles out of the solution. They land on the nearest surfaces and continually build up to form the perfectly shaped crystals you see. Make sure to take note of whether the borax crystals look the same or different to each other. If the solution cools down too quickly, the crystals form irregularly because they don't have a chance to reject the impurities that are also contained in the solution. You should try to leave the crystals untouched for about 24 hours.

After 24 hours, you can take the crystal seashells out and let them dry on paper towels. Set up an observation station for the kids to look at the crystals. Have them describe what they look like and even draw them!

STARFISH & SEASHELL NAUTICAL WIND CHIME

SUPPLIES:

Paint
Flowerpot
Starfish
Paintbrush
Seashells
Clear/Stretchy Chording
Twine



DIRECTIONS:

1. Paint the ceramic pot with a few layers of paint. Dry completely.
2. Use the cut strands of clear cording to slide shells and starfish into place. Tie a double knot on the bottom of the strand of cording. Thread your first seashell on. That first knot will keep the shell from sliding off. Tie another knot above the first seashell where you want the second shell to rest. Slide on the second shell. Repeat with each seashell. Do this for each strand that will hang from the pot. The amount of shells you use on the strands is up to you!
3. Loop the twine to the top of the pot for hanging. Tie a knot to secure.
4. Attach the strands of seashells using the holes drilled around the rim of the pot. Double knot the elastic cording.
5. Hang your beautiful nautical seashell and starfish wind chime!



PAPER PLATE WOVEN SHARKS

SUPPLIES:

Paper Plate
Paint
Single Hole Puncher (needed from home)
Yarn
Googly Eyes
Glue
Sticky Tape (needed from home)
Scissors (needed from home)
Brush
Marker (Optional- needed from home)



DIRECTIONS

1. Each shark sewing craft is made using just one paper plate. Start making your shark by cutting out the center of your paper plate. Flip the middle circle over and draw the boat shape you see in the photo above. These shapes make the shark's smile and fins.
2. Cut the individual shapes out of your circle. Use the curved bottom of the boat shape to make some sharp shark teeth by cutting zig zag shapes.
3. Paint the outer ring of the paper plate and the remaining three pieces. Kids can use grey or have fun mixing up their own shades of blues and greys.
4. When your paint is dry use your single hole puncher to make sewing holes all around the inner ring of the paper plate. Tip: You can position yours in the same place as the numbers on a clock. You can vary the number of sewing holes to make it easier or harder depending on the age of the child.
5. Cut a length of your chosen color of yarn and tape it to the back of the paper plate. It's easier for the children to work with a few pieces of shorter yarn than one great big length.
6. Sew the yarn in and out of the holes, weaving it back and forth across the plate to make a mesh of criss-crosses.
6. Keep weaving and sewing until the space in the shark's middle is full.

7. Glue the shark's dorsal fin and pectoral fins on. We use UHU glue because it's so quick to dry. If you are using white school glue then you might want to use clothes pegs to hold the fins in place while the glue dries.
8. Finish your Paper Plate Shark Sewing Craft off by gluing on your teeth and googly eyes! If you want to you can draw on some gills with a marker too. Now your woven shark is ready to play with or go on display, what fun!

