

Christmas is here! This whole edition of something to do is themed so you can get the most out of Christmas in your programme. Christmas in NZ is like nowhere else in the world, so why not celebrate 'A Kiwi Christmas' with these cool NZ themed decorations.



A Kiwi Christmas



Pom Pom Ice Cream Cones

Summer at the beach, add in an ice cream and its pretty darn good. These tree decorations will look great and are so simple.

A few pom poms, a quarter circle of foam card and you're set. Full detailed instructions found at oscn.org.nz/files/PomPomCones.pdf

This activity will also work well in a summer-themed programme - great for the long January holidays.



Ice Block Stick Pohutukawa

Pohutukawa is the NZ Christmas tree, so why not make a decoration that reflects something so iconic to our Christmas. These decorations only use 3 resources - ice block sticks, paint and sequins... simple. They will look great free standing on a table or add a loop to hang it where ever you want.

Again this craft can also be used to get you through the summer programmes, not just for Christmas.

If you need, we have full instructions online at oscn.org.nz/files/IceblockstickPohutukawa.pdf

Mini Jandals

Hot sand, hot tar... what do we need... Jandals. Such a Kiwi thing to wear through summer, why not decorate for Christmas with some sparkley mini Jandals.

Made from foam card or regular card, embellished to make them sparkley for Christmas and with words to get you in the festive mood they look great.

Full detailed instructions found at oscn.org.nz/files/MiniJandals.pdf



An Easy Idea - Card Garlands



Every year I get Christmas cards and every year I have no idea what to do with them when Christmas is over... well now I do.

Rip off the front, cut into circles, fold, glue and add string... now those old Christmas cards have a new life as a beautiful garland.

Full detailed instructions found at oscn.org.nz/uploads/86025/files/ChristmasCardGarland.pdf

These garlands are also a great idea to deck out your programme space to evoke the festivities.

Pegs



Advent Calendar

Kids love to countdown till Christmas and this easy craft will help them do that.

Some pegs on an old card or paper plate, it doesn't get much simpler than that. These calendars can also be changed up with added lollies as small gifts for everyday closer. Full detailed instructions found at oscn.org.nz/files/PegAdventCalendar.pdf

Why not make a large one for your programme with small gifts attached and together you can count down through the silly season.



Peg Star

Stars always look good as decorations and this simple craft can make your tree or space look stunning.

Collect your pegs then twist the to release the spring, glue together and add a button... simple. Full detailed instructions found at oscn.org.nz/files/PegStar.pdf

For older children you could also just give them the pegs and set the challenge to see what Christmas themed shapes they can make into decorations.



Mini Peg Scenes

Miniature is always fun, but on a peg is better because then you can clip them almost anywhere.

A few small supplies like embellishments, pipe cleaners and some imagination and your set to go. Full detailed instructions found at oscn.org.nz/files/MiniPegScenes.pdf

Find the resources

Pegs can easily be found in discount variety stores in the craft section but if you can use regular size pegs you will find they are much cheaper with a bag of 72 costing on \$2. They are normally found in the laundry isle and not with the craft supplies.





Jar Hot Chocolate

Everyone loves food for a gift, and with the addition of a reindeer jar.... your freinds and family will love it.

The jar is filled with hot chocolate and marshmallows but you may want to fill it with something else for example the ingredients to make brownies or even a range of snacks like pretzels. Let your creativity flow, full detailed instructions found at

oscn.org.nz/files/HotChocolatelnAJar.pdf



Marbled Gifts

This is one of the harder crafts to do but with a bit of experimenting and some patience you can create some stunning designer looking gifts to give away this Christmas.

The method is simple: put nail polish in water, marble then dunk your object. Keep in mind if you want to eat or drink from it, you wouldn't want to apply the polish marble to that surface.

Full detailed instructions found at oscn.org.nz/files/MarbledGifts.pdf



Make A Reindeer Game

Gifts are great, but a gift that will get hours of entertainment for you and a friend? Even better.

This little game is simple and easy to make and just as simple to play, it all comes down to the roll of the dice. Even better, it only uses card (coloured and cut out) and a die. Full detailed instructions found at

oscn.org.nz/files/MakeAReindeerGame.pdf

Gift wrapping ideas

Gift wrapping is half the enjoyment of getting a gift. Below are a few images of ideas for what you can do to make your

present look a million bucks. It can be detailed like the fingerprint lights below or as simple adding some greenery to your bow. Have a look on pinterest for more ideas.





Chocolate Drawings

Food glorious food. We all love it and need it. These little chocolate creations allow you to use your creativity and make a unique item to gift... or eat yourself.

The recipe only calls for two ingredients, candy melts and edible embellishments. Full detailed instructions found at oscn.org.nz/files/ChocolateDrawings.pdf

Although the instructions come with templates of shapes to use this can be a great opportunity to allow creativity to flourish and for children to draw their own templates to make their chocolate creations.



Stained glass biscuits

These festive biscuits are sure to make you go wow. These are simply sugar biscuits cut into shapes then a shape cut out the middle and filled with hard candies, that melt in the oven.

Full detailed instructions found at oscn.org.nz/files/StainedGlassBiscuits.pdf

If you have children with dietary requirements, you may wish to change out the biscuit recipe but there are many free allergy safe recipes online. Use any biscuit recipe to make these amazing creations.

Christmas Relish

Another great gift that will last a long time. This relish is simple to make.

Get everything cut as required, put it all in a pot, bring to the boil and then simmer... easy. Fill jars and decorate with some twine, a tag and some embellishments. Full detailed instructions found at oscn.org.nz/files/ChristmasRelish.pdf

Although the baking may be more difficult for large groups this is something smaller groups of older children (with careful supervision) can make themselves.



Creative Afternoon Teas

Its easy to make afternoon teas more festive with simple techniques. You can cut regular items into Christmas shapes or even simply arrange the items into a Christmas design. Give it a go - children will love it.

