

Summer has arrived.... seasons can be a great starting point for a theme. "Off to the tropics" is a great idea for summer. Mix these crafts with fun outside activities and enjoy the warm weather.

Off to the tropics



Rice starfish

Simple to make with minimal resources, what a great tropical themed craft. Draw the star then line the middle with PVA and put the rice on the glue... leave it to dry then paint. Full instructions found at oscn.org.nz/files/RiceStarfish.pdf

If you don't have rice you could exchange it for glitter or seed beads... really anything that will create a different texture from the card.



Shell fish

This is a fun little craft and if you are near a beach this could be coupled with a trip to collect the shells.

Any shells can be used to make these cool looking fish. The shell becomes the main body then add the small fins, a tail and an eye: your shell is now a fish. Full instructions found at oscn.org.nz/files/ShellFish.pdf

Fruit fans

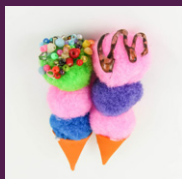
Summer is super but sometimes we need to beat the heat... a fruit fan should help with this.

The fan can be as simple as adding popsicle sticks to the folded fruit fan, or changing it up and allowing the fan to fold with split pins on the base of the sticks. Full instructions found at oscn.org.nz/files/FruitFans.pdf



A 'Kiwi Christmas' turned a 'Kiwi Summer'

Our last edition of something to do included three crafts that can be transitioned from Christmas craft to summer crafts.



Pom Pom Ice Cream Cones.

These cones are very simple to transition,

lose the glitter and Christmas embellishments and add seed beads for sprinkles. Instructions at oscn.org.nz/files/PomPomCones.pdf



Ice Block Stick Pohutukawa.

Again removing the sequins and replacing them with

small yellow pom poms or paint, then it's no longer Christmas themed. Instructions found at oscn.org.nz/files/IceblockstickPohutukawa.pdf



Mini Jandals.

These cute creations can be made changed up by adding small suns

or wave patterns to make it feel more summer. Instructions found at oscn.org.nz/files/Minilandals.pdf

Outside Crafts



Floating Chalk Printing

Chalk dust can be a pain for inside crafts, but when you have the space and weather to work outside then this craft becomes an easy clean up.

Chalk can usually be found at most discount variety stores and is cost effective.

Simply use a spoon to shave off some chalk dust from sidewalk chalk into the water, then place your paper on top. The final product can be set with hairspray and kept as is or used to make other cool crafts like cards. Full instructions found at oscn.org.nz/files/FloatingChalkPrinting.pdf



DIY Chalks

Home made sidewalk chalk is very easy to make and when done outside it's easy to clean up afterwards. The main ingredient is plaster of paris which can be found at most good craft supply stores as well as Bunnings Warehouse. Instructions can be found at oscn.org.nz/files/DIYChalks.pdf



Sand Candles

This activity will take a little more planning but will have an awesome outcome that children can take home as a unique gift.

Making the mold is as simple as playing in the sandpit, then you can add a wick and pour the melted wax straight into the sand. Full instructions found at oscn.org.nz/files/SandCandles.pdf

This activity does require melting wax so remember to do your risk assessment before this activity.

Jandal Stamps



Another craft you would never attempt inside is a great idea to do outside in summer. Stamping with jandals can make some awesome artwork for children to take home. Full instructions found at oscn.org.nz/files/JandalStamps.pdf

Games? Another awesome thing about summer is being able to do games that include water. Most regular games you play can be changed up to include water. A great example of this is drip, drip, splash... which is simply a game of duck, duck, goose but played with a cup of water. You can also turn the simple relay into a fun way to cool down using sponges and buckets. These games and more found at oscn.org.nz/uploads/files/WaterGames.pdf