

Shell Creatures

When you visit the beach collect lots of shells. Carefully wash them and leave to dry. You can then stick your shells together to make shell creatures.

To make a cute little 'clod-hopper' you will need: 2 mussel shells of similar sizes (one left 'handed' and one right 'handed'), a cockle shell, a smaller cockle shell or similar, glue or putty, goggle eyes and colouring pens.



1) Stick 2 mussel shells together.



2) Stick the smaller shell on top.



3) Stick the larger cockle shell on top of the smaller shell and leave to dry.



4) Stick on goggle eyes and/or draw on facial features.

Choosing a suitable glue: PVA and similar glues are not usually strong enough to hold shells together. A glue gun will work, but is unsuitable for young children. The best material is a thick putty or paste that will fill the holes in the shells, gluing them securely together. If possible use a putty specially designed for craft activities. Putty intended for decorating will give good results but care must be taken to ensure it is safe for use with children. A thick paste made from flour and water may work in the short term but is likely to flake and break apart over time.



Safety Note: If using a decorating putty or paste an adult must check whether it is suitable for this purpose and follow all safety advice carefully.

