

Happy holiday crafts that are eco-friendly, kid-friendly and creative



∫ **Bottle Cap Snowman Ornaments:** <https://www.turningclockback.com/eco-friendly-christmas-craft-bottle-cap-snowmen/>

You'll need just a few supplies to make these ornaments: bottle caps, a glue gun, ribbon, white paint, paint brush and some fine-point permanent markers. You can also use tiny pom poms, gems, ribbon and yarn to accessorize.

∫ **Advent Nature Table:** <https://exploreandexpress-sheila.blogspot.com/2012/12/advent-nature-table.html>

This unique Advent calendar requires 24 stones and a set of nativity figures, plus any decorations you'd like to add. Simply put the shepherds and Wise Men at one end of the stones, and each day, remove one stone to move them closer to baby Jesus and the manger.

∫ **Nature Nativity:** <https://exploreandexpress-sheila.blogspot.com/2011/12/nature-nativity.html>

Use assorted natural treasures from a nearby park or forest (moss, sticks, chestnuts, rocks, tree bark, acorns, pinecones, etc.) to build this nativity inside a terra cotta flowerpot saucer.

∫ **Natural Play Dough:** <https://theimaginationtree.com/10-natural-play-dough-recipes/>

Here is a collection of 10 simple and easy natural play dough recipes with a variety of scents and textures for sensory and creative play for kids of all ages.

∫ **Cinnamon Salt Dough Ornaments:** <https://www.aprettylifeinthesuburbs.com/cinnamon-salt-ornaments/>

These ornaments are quick and easy to make and require adult supervision only to make and roll out the dough. Just 1 cup flour, ½ cup salt, ½ cup water and 1-2 tbsp cinnamon makes approximately 30 ornaments.

∫ **All-Natural Christmas Sensory Bin:** <https://www.paper-and-glue.com/2014/12/all-natural-christmas-sensory-bin.html>

This is a clear plastic container of red, green split, and white beans as well as pinecones, holly leaves, cranberries and evergreen foliage (or any other natural item in red and green – except holly berries, which are poisonous). Add in tongs, spoons and bowls to play.

∫ **Twiggy Christmas Shakers:** <https://www.learning4kids.net/2014/12/14/twiggy-christmas-shakers/>

These shakers are simple to make and great for playing hide-and-seek or musical statues or singing and dancing to Christmas songs

∫ **Tinsel Tent:** <http://www.beafunmum.com/2013/12/tinsel-tent-for-drawing-in-the-late-afternoons/>

If you have kids who like to play outside, create this tent from approximately 50 yards of red, green and white tinsel for them to run through. Secure each piece to the ground with a tent peg, run it up over a branch and then back down and secured with another tent peg. You can fix any breaks with strong masking or packing tape.

∫ **Reindeer Hunt:** <http://bloomdesignsonline.com/2012/12/reindeer-hunt-and-free-tags.html>

Create a scavenger hunt using the printable reindeer tags found at the link.

∫ **Scrap Ribbon Ornaments:** <https://www.firefliesandmudpies.com/scrap-ribbon-tree-ornaments/>

Use shades of green and brown scrap ribbon to emulate Christmas tree branches. Tie them down the length of a twig or cinnamon stick, then tie or hot glue a loop of twine at the top. You can add a star or yellow button at the top of the tree if you want.

∫ **Pinecone Reindeer Ornaments:** <https://kidscraftroom.com/pinecone-reindeer-homemade-ornaments-for-kids/>

Make these reindeer out of pinecones, scrap ribbon and fabric, pom poms or buttons, googly eyes and sparkly pipe cleaners.

∫ **Holiday potpourri:** <https://nateandrachael.com/make-house-smell-like-christmas-potpourri/>

Combine orange peels, whole allspice, cloves, cinnamon sticks, vanilla and water in a pot on the stove and simmer for a lovely Christmas smell. (Don't let it simmer unattended, though, or it will be a less lovely smell.)

∫ **Ice Ornaments:** <https://www.kitchencounterchronicle.com/simple-ice-ornaments>

Place things like banana slices, blueberries and orange peels (which can be eaten by wildlife and will decompose once the ornaments melt) into small plastic containers and ice cube trays, then cover with as much or little water as you prefer and freeze. Once the ornaments are frozen, just pop them out of their container and hang them on trees.