Beach Buddy

by Fifi Colston

Shells come in all shapes and sizes. Next time you're on the beach, pick some up and look at them closely. What do you notice? What do they make you think of? Do they look like part of an animal? You could use shells to make a beach buddy, a crazy creature from the seashore.

You will need:

- modelling clay
- clean, dry seashells
- scissors
- a piece of card to sit your creature on
- odds and ends for decorating your creature (things like buttons, pipe cleaners, toothpicks, scraps of fabric, or pieces of cardboard)

What to do:

1. Roll a piece of modelling clay into an egg-sized ball.

2. Sit it on the card.

3. Add more balls of clay to build up your creature's body.

4. Push seashells into the clay to make humps, ridges, wings, ears, or fins. You could make a tail from clay and add some small shells.

5. Use odds and ends to add details. For example, you could cut up pipe cleaners to make legs and spikes.

6. Think of a name for your beach buddy. Here are some ideas: Shelly, Crabby, Pipi, Sandy.

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