



The Art & Craft sessions

There are seven topics:

- Clay
 - Toys & Games
 - Lollypop Sticks
 - Paper
 - Puppets
 - Wool & String
- Tie Dye (if you have a passion for tie dye contact equipment@barracudas.co.uk for equipment)

Each topic area is divided into the four age ranges on camp:

- Early Years (those aged 5 on 31st August and younger)
- Older 5's and 6's
- 7-10 years
- 11+ years

Each age range has at least two sides of A4 with various ideas for each topic. They are mostly planned to be completed in the one session, but occasionally drying time is needed and it may stretch over two sessions. This is typically for the Clay topic and Paper topic (paper mache) so **plan for these sessions at the beginning of the week.**

Guidance and planning

1. Read all of these notes, paying attention to Activity Codes of Practice and Adhesive guidance
2. Use your paid set-up day to look through the resources and create some 'here's one I made earlier'. This will help you to lead the session and help your group to see the end result
3. PLAN your week during set-up too. It is easiest to run one topic for the whole day. That way you have similar resources out each session
4. Prepare an Art Gallery in the collection area for children to take their items home. This way they are less likely to be damaged or left in the base rooms during the day

A word on resources

- We have calculated that typically between 15 – 20 children will choose Art and Craft each session. You have 6 different topics and a Theme Day sheet each week
- Generally, paper mache and clay will run over two sessions. This gives a total of 10 sessions, so in most cases each topic will run once a fortnight with returns to dried creations
- This is what you have been resourced for. **If you run some of the topics each week/each day you will run out.** Be fair to different children coming on different weeks. We will of course top up resources throughout the season, but only if they have been used correctly. Advise your Senior Team if you need more, remembering it can take 3 working days to get them to you
- 11+ years sessions are for 11+ aged children. These sessions have higher difficulty levels and more expensive resources appropriate to their ages. If younger ages attempt them, they will not benefit from them and the resources will be used, leaving the 11+ with basic resources that may not stretch their creativity

Feedback: Remember to send us photos of your sessions for Facebook!



Activity Codes of Practice for Art & Craft Sessions

- Children must be supervised at all times when in the Art room
- Where possible the Art Instructor should have a walkie-talkie for communication with the senior team
- Any electrical items must be stored out of reach of the children. Irons are to be used by staff only. Glue guns must be used in line with usage rules detailed overleaf
- Glue sticks must be kept out of reach of children
- Sharp scissors must be counted in and out and can only be used under supervisions by children aged 10 years +. Rounded craft scissors can be used freely by any age
- All items to be stored neatly to prevent tripping or fire hazards
- Spillages must be cleaned up immediately
- Brushes, pots and sponges must be cleaned after each use and left to air dry for next session
- Any damage to school property must be reported immediately to the Camp Manager
- Tables must be covered and children must wear aprons appropriate to age and session

Top Tips!

- Make a plan of the room and take photos before you move anything
- If appropriate, move school resources out of the way carefully, or make a barrier so our equipment does not get mixed up with theirs. With the exception of empty drying racks; **YOU MUST NOT USE ANY OF THE SCHOOL'S EQUIPMENT**
- If there is an abundance of school artwork on display, speak to your senior team to ask the school liaison if it can be moved
- Move tables and chairs to create fewer larger tables that groups can work around together. Create an area where everyone can see what you are doing for demonstrations
- Cover any carpet with tarpaulin and tables with table coverings provided
- Unpack your resources and go through the topics so you can see what is used when
- Make a place for commonly used items so children can help tidy away – a good life skill
- Make a few 'here's one I made earlier' during set-up day especially items you have not made yourself. Ones to hunt out include ninja juggling balls, fidget spinners, some clay items, finger/French knitting, tie-dye and bird feeders. The different adhesive options are good to test as well
- Plan, plan, plan! You cannot plan too much! You have to give your SSI the list of sessions for the next day each afternoon for the timetable. They will need the activity name, not just 'clay', 'wool' etc. for each session
- Plan drying time activities for paper mache and clay – you will need it
- As each group arrives, settle them into their chairs before introducing the session. They will know what they are doing as they will have been told from the information you have given your SSI the day before. They have chosen your session and know what to expect
- If a child asks to do something completely different than what is planned, calmly explain what is on offer today and see if you can offer their choice another day, however, see earlier text, 'A note on resources'
- Keep the area as clean as possible during the session
- Allow for 5-10 mins tidy time depending on the age of the children and levels of creativity (mess!). The room must be clean and ready for the next session. This is particularly important between session 2&3 and 4&5 where there is no break
- Ensure children put lids on pens and bottles of paint and glue to prevent drying out
- Remember to write names on EVERYTHING!

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Adhesive guidance and rules for Barracudas Art and Craft sessions

Using the correct adhesive product is essential so the children get the most from the sessions. We have graded the provided adhesive options into scales of risk, you should always use the lowest grade that will achieve the desired result i.e. if PVA glue will hold the items together you must always use it irrespective of the child's age, only moving onto the next grade if required, whilst following risk assessment.

When choosing the appropriate grade, consider the weight of the item compared to the surface area where the adhesive can be applied. For example:

- Grade 1: PVA glue will stick a small pipe cleaner to a smooth surface if you are sticking the length of it
- Grade 2: A disc maybe required if you are sticking partial length (creating dangly legs for example) as you have less surface area to stick
- Grade 3: You may need a glue gun if you add beads or washers for weight to create a foot and shoe effect to the dangling leg as the surface area is small and the weight has increased, or if you want to stick the pipe cleaner end-down to create a vertical effect

In the sessions, the children should be doing almost 100% of the work themselves, this adds to their learning and enjoyment. Guide children under 7 years away from choosing items when grade 1 adhesive will not work and suggest lighter options instead. If a higher grade is needed as a one-off element of the project and the bulk of the project has been achieved by the children, you can assist by following the guidelines.

Glue gun risk assessment and usage rules

In order to provide extended craft sessions or for necessary speed to accommodate the one hour session time, some of the activities require use of a glue gun. **This is a high risk tool and must be used with care and attention.**

We have sourced some lower temperature glue pens that are wireless in order to reduce as many hazards as possible, however, **a risk of burning remains** and it must be used with care and following these rules and the full risk assessment. **No alternative glue gun can be used until reviewed and assessed by Barracudas Central Office staff.**

- Read and follow the manufacturers instruction booklet for the individual glue gun
- Only to be handled by 11+ years
- The group must be told these rules and monitored that they are being followed
- Never touch the metal tip of the pen or the black plastic nose around the tip
- Never touch the hot glue from the pen
- Never pull a stick out from the back of the pen
- Never use whilst charging
- Always cover the table prior to turning the glue pen on
- Users must wear aprons
- Allow 15 seconds to heat fully before using
- When not in use, rest on scrap cardboard in case of drips

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	Name	Hazard and usage notes	Good for	Limitations	Craft projects examples
1	PVA white glue, glue stick; Selotape, Masking tape.	<p>Zero risk to skin unless allergy Washes and rubs off If digested seek medical attention</p> <p>Age guidance: All ages can have free access from measured amounts EY children should only have free access to this grade</p>	Sticking light items to paper, card, lolly pop sticks and plastic	Cannot hold heavy items (beads, pipe cleaners)	Most – not textiles (socks)
2	Glue dots, glue discs, glue tape.	<p>Zero risk to skin unless allergy Washes and rubs off If digested seek medical attention</p> <p>Tape and dots can be tricky to use rather than cause harm, so guidance will be required from the instructor. E.g. Peel off one side of the dot or tape, leaving one side still on the strip. Place it where it is needed whilst still on strip and then the peel the strip away. This removes the need to touch the dot etc, as oil from the finger will reduce the effectiveness of the dot/tape.</p> <p>Age guidance: EY must not use freely as tricky 5-6 can assist the instructor 7+ can have free access to a measured amount as needed by the project ONCE they have been shown how best to use them as detailed above and they are monitored. <i>They are expensive and should not be used unnecessarily</i></p>	<p>Heavier items when there is good proportion of surface area to weight of item e.g. pipe cleaners when sticking part of the length</p>	<p>Cannot hold if the item has very small surface area AND is holding a weight</p> <p>Discs are single sided adhesive whereas dots and tape are double sided</p> <p>Tape is very thin and can easily stick to itself</p>	<p>Lolly pop bird house uses dots and tape</p> <p>Noted where needed in instructions</p>
3	Glue pen	<p>SEE FULL RISK ASSESSMENT FOR USE Risk of burn if the metal tip is touched Risk of burn if the hot glue is touched once out of the gun Risk of burn and damage if the glue stick is pulled from the gun after it has been inserted Risk of trip hazard when charging</p> <p>Age guidance: Only 11+ can use this and only whilst supervised by staff with full risk assessment being followed</p>	Small surface area or weight bearing items	<p>Only three are supplied to maintain supervision levels and safety however, session progress may be affected</p> <p>Cannot be used on some areas where heat may cause melting e.g. balloons</p>	<p>Minor parts of a project, never the whole session e.g. Marble run (planning is big part of this project)</p> <p>Noted where needed in instructions</p>

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Tips for using Clay

You will be using air dry clay, so no kiln is needed.

- Wrap up the unused clay so air cannot get to it and begin to dry it out
- You have been sent enough clay for the season, so divide it up between the weeks you are open and the number of groups you have each week, so each age group have a chance to use it. It may be best to have a 'clay-day', it keeps all the mess on one day too! Of course, if lots of children choose your session and you are running low let us know so we can top up, but this should not really be happening until the end of week 3/beginning of week 4
- If the tables are wooden, make sure you cover them before getting the clay out of the bag as it can mark the surface or fill the grooves
- Children must wear aprons, particularly younger ages
- The clay will need to be softened before use, each child simply needs to knead it for a few minutes to make it pliable
- Where possible mold one piece of clay into the shape needed rather than add smaller bits onto a main piece as over time they will break off
- When elements are required to be added on, teach all age groups about the need to score and use slip to 'glue' the clay together (see below). Although wet clay may stick together, when it dries it will easily break off without scoring and using slip
- Children also need to understand surface area, a heavy part stuck with a small surface area will not stick. Adapt your language to suit their age
- If a piece of a finished item breaks off, as the instructor you can use the glue gun to fix it back on so the child is not disappointed. Older groups can use the glue gun themselves, if the risk assessment is followed. However, all items are better fixed on when the clay is wet rather than gluing on after it has dried
- Drying time – anything about 1-2cm thick should be okay within 24 hours, but thicker items (dragons eggs) will take longer
- When dry, air dry clay is brittle and careful handling is essential



Making Slip

Slip is clay-glue. Using small parts of clay, add water and some vinegar to create a watery paste-like consistency. To stick clay together, or decorative items to clay, score the area, then add the slip and fix in place. It will take time to dry, do not rush it.

Slip can also be used to fill in any cracks that have developed during the drying process, however more drying time will then be needed.

Notes on other resources and sessions

- The paper-mache notes explain how to make the paste, however, we have supplied pre-made paper-mache paste, which only needs water adding to it.
- When testing, some jewelry beads cracked the clay as it dried, so ensure you use the supplied gems for Dragon Eggs
- Eggs cups are tricky, plenty of slip is needed to create a smooth result

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Weekly Theme

There is a different Theme for each week at camp. Arts and craft sessions are a great way to celebrate the Theme and bring it to life. As the Art and Crafts instructor, it is a fantastic opportunity to show how creative you are. You will have instructions for activities for each Weekly Theme. Please make the most of these and build them into the sessions throughout the week. You also have large sheets of material for the whole camp to decorate for each Theme. You will have a specially designed template for each week. You need to paint the outline for the picture, following the template. Each group can add different sections to it, creating the larger image. The sheets will be decorated throughout the week in line with the Themes.

Friday Finale

The last day of camp each week is the perfect opportunity to create a buzz for children who have been with us throughout the week. This end of week event should also encourage kids to join us at camp on Friday if they've not yet booked on! Friday Finales' are fun days with special end of week activities based around the Weekly Theme. This is a great chance to display the artwork created at camp throughout the week in the registration area. This years' Themes are:-

- 13-17th February '23 – Horrible Histories
- 3rd – 6th April '23 – Future Me
- 11th – 14th April '23 – Fit for a King or Queen
- 29th May – 2nd June '23 – Around the World
- 17th – 21st July '23 – Intrepid Adventurers
- 24th – 28th July '23 – Animal Magic
- 31st July – 4th August '23 – The Greatest Show
- 7th – 11th August '23 – Under the Sea
- 14th – 18th August '23 – Sports Heroes
- 21st – 25th August '23 – Colours of the Rainbow
- 23rd – 27th October '23 – Happy Halloween

Drying time activity

Use the Theme Day Big Art as a drying time or filler activity. If some or all of the group finish your planned session early, be prepared with ideas they can be working on.

Registration display

Take the sheet to the registration area for parents to see at registration and collection each day. Parents and children will love to see the progression throughout the week!

