

MAKE
YOUR
OWN

SALT
DOUGH
STARFISH

TWILIGHT AT
 HOME

Starfish are very varied, some – the 'brittle stars' – have long, thin, windy arms, while the 'cushion stars' are thick and fat with short arms. Choose what shape to make in this fun craft activity.

Salt dough is fun and easy to make but please remember it is not for eating!

YOU WILL NEED:

- 50g of plain flour (gluten free works too)
- 125g of table salt
- 125ml of water

Makes 1 ball of dough
Prep time = 10 mins
Bake = 3 hours
Air-dry = 2-7 days



You can find starfish fossils at the Sedgwick Museum. In the meantime, here are some amazing starfish facts...

1. Mix the flour and salt in a bowl and add the water a little at a time – stirring the mixture until it comes together in a dough ball (too wet = add a little flour, too dry = add a little water). Your dough will keep soft for 5 days in a sealed container.

2. Move the dough to a floured surface and shape into a starfish that has 5 arms.

3. Then, either

a) Ask an adult to place on a lined baking sheet, pop in a cool oven and bake for 1-3 hours. To save on energy, try using the oven after you've used it to cook something else.

b) Or leave to air-dry until your starfish is hard (2-7 days) – turn them over once a day.

4. Decorate your starfish with paint or felt tip pens. Some are very brightly coloured while others camouflage themselves to look like the sea floor.

- The oldest starfish fossils are about 470 million years old.
- They are sensitive to touch, light and temperature, even though they do not have a brain.
- When they eat – their stomach comes out of their mouths and they digest their food outside their body.



Tip!! Smaller starfish or ones with thinner arms will take less time to bake or dry.