



Ruthin Craft Centre
The Centre for the Applied Arts

Celebrating Craft and the Art of Making

little hands

@RCC

NEW!

TAKE

AWAY



TAKE

AWAY

Our Little Hands sessions are jam-packed with joyful learning, especially designed for little artists to explore their inner creativity, be curious and MAKE!

Creating environments and activities inspired by our exhibition programme which are sensory and playful for you and your little one to discover and enjoy.

Continue the creative play at home - a follow on from our 2020 Little Hands project 'Craft Kitchen.'

This time our 'recipes' of crafty ideas will include a package of 'ingredients' (materials), that you'll be able to do at home safely with your little one. The package also includes a craft recipe for adults too!!

Both of the activities are inspired by our exhibition programme.

**These 'recipes' are designed by artists
Ticky Lowe & Donna Jones and
Illustrated by Rhi Moxon**

These activities require minimal resources and are easy to follow.

**We hope you will enjoy and please feel free to share your creations with us!
We would love to see how you get on!**

TAKE



AWAY



Spring is the season of new beginnings - fresh buds bloom, animals awaken from their long winter sleep, birds begin to nest, lay their eggs and welcome their little chicks to the world.

This pack encourages us to look and explore our natural environment, as we all become more aware of the importance of insects and pollinators both in our gardens and more widely for crop growing and agriculture.

Our Spring pack is full of sensory ideas and creative activities for you and your little one to do together at home.

The activities in this pack Includes: Exploration of materials, mark making, sorting, stacking, singing, listening, constructing but most importantly playing and having fun!



Our 4th Take Away pack celebrates 'Spring Time' and is inspired by the Ruthin Craft Centre previous exhibitions:-

'Flora' which celebrates the world of flowers within the different realms of Craft

And

'Five Sisters and a Family Tree' a collection of decorative ceramic creatures inspired by **Susan O'Byrne's** own family members.



For the adults (parents, guardians – even grandparents) an opportunity for some craft 'Me Time' too as we've included an activity for you to do at home in your own time – perhaps along with a nice cup tea or coffee?

Following on with the theme of 'Spring' make a nature inspired mobile. Be inspired by nature by getting outdoors, going for a walk, engage with your natural surroundings and then MAKE.

Materials to explore together with your little one



Ingredients

- 3 empty egg boxes
- 1 egg box containing:
 - 1 papier mache egg
 - 1 egg shaker
 - 2 chalk eggs
 - 2 crayon eggs
- Assorted patterned paper for collage
- PVA glue
- Black paper
- White paper
- Feathers
- Wool
- Raffia

To share

- Watercolour paint
- Air drying clay
- Roller
- Cutter
- Drinking straw
- String / twine
- Natural materials



Discover what's inside the egg box?

Explore the textures, colours and sounds of the eggs inside the box.

For a more sensory exploration include the raffia, wool and the feathers for a scrunchy and soft fluffy experience too – your babies will love this activity!

Making things out of egg boxes

You can create all kinds of things from egg boxes.

It is a great material for model making.

Why not have a go at making some of these for example;

- A little bird
- Petals / flowers

● Or you might like to collage your egg box with different pieces of patterned paper and glue in the same style as **Susan O'Byrne** decorates her clay animals? Then you have a beautifully decorated box to keep all of your treasures which you'll cherish for a long time.



Making a cosy nest

A nest is a cosy and safe place for a bird to lay their eggs. With your child you can use the raffia and feathers and make a little nest and place it somewhere safe in your house along with the eggs provided in the box.

Or if you want to go bigger!! Make a cosy indoor nest for 'yourselves' using cushions and blankets in your house!



Exotic Birds

Place the different coloured feathers onto black paper to make your own exotic bird collage.



Bird Songs

Next time you go out for a walk, listen out for a bird song and when you hear it - stop and encourage your child to listen in too.

If you want to find out more about birds and the different sounds they make, then follow this link:

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/bird-songs/what-bird-is-that/>



Inspired by our
'Flora' exhibition make a
hanging decoration out
of air drying clay

Step 1: Roll out the clay flat and thin with a rolling pin.

Step 2: Then press the natural materials provided (or you might want to include your own flowers, leaves, herbs grown from your own garden) firmly into the clay, then peel away the natural material from the clay to create a delicate flora imprint.

Step 3: Choose a part of the design/imprint you particularly like and use the round cutter to cut out the shape.

Step 4: Use the straw to make a hole at the top of your clay circle.

Step 5: Leave the clay to dry for a day or two.

Step 6: Once the clay has dried, thread the twine/ string through the hole you've made with the straw and find a special place to hang in your home.

If you would like to add colour, you can always paint your hanging decoration with watercolours, acrylic etc once the clay has dried.



Safety Tips

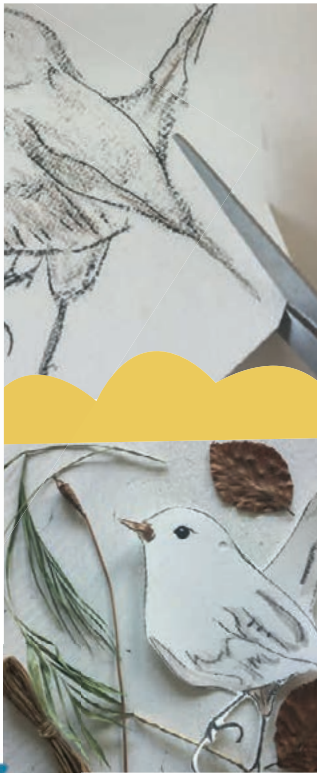
All activities are for the parents/guardians and their children to do together
- **children must not be left alone with any of these materials and must be supervised at all times.**

Some creative 'Me Time' for the adults Make your own nature inspired mobile



You will need the following ingredients:

- String, twine or ribbon
- Natural materials
- Paper
- Drawing/ colouring materials
- Scissors
- A long stick approx. 30cm in size
- Hole puncher or a large needle



Make a nature mobile, inspired by your countryside walks and/or from your collection of nature/wildlife books and magazines.

Here is a step by step process of how to make one...

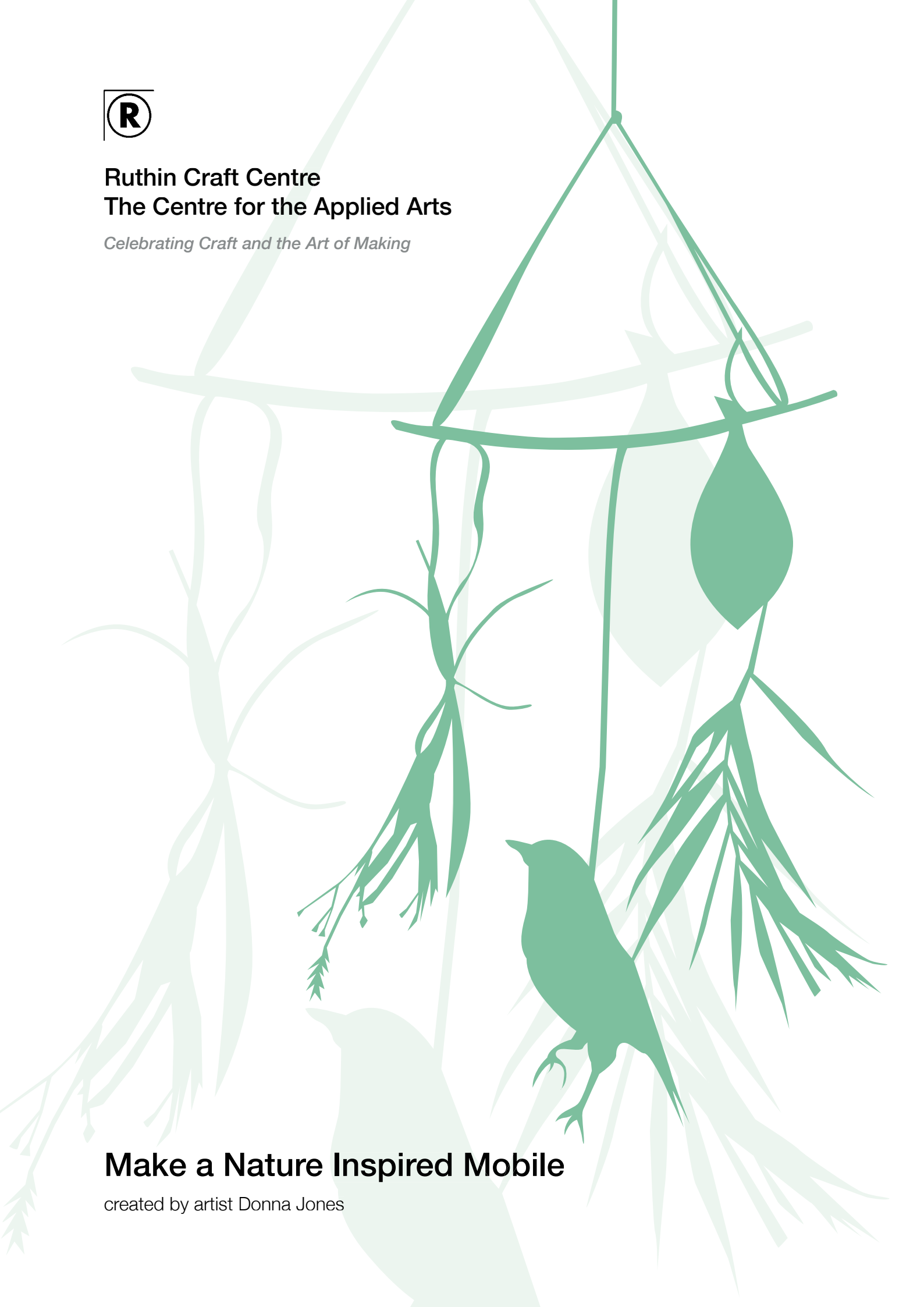


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Make a Nature Inspired Mobile

created by artist Donna Jones



1

Be inspired by going for a walk and collect natural materials along the way that you might like to use as inspiration or hang directly onto your mobile.

Or browse through your collection of nature books and magazines for inspiration.



2

Here are some examples of the drawing materials that you might like to use to draw/paint with. For example, you might like to draw a bird from an image you've seen from your collection of nature books or you might prefer to take a direct photo, print, cut out and hang directly onto the mobile.



3

These are the materials you'll need to use to hang your selected pieces and create a mobile with.



4

When you have drawn and coloured in your bird/animal, cut out with scissors.



5

Then make a hole at the top with a hole puncher or pierce through the paper with a large needle.



6

Have a play and see what natural materials you've collected from your walk which blends and works together nicely with your bird design.



7

For the mobile itself, you will need a stick approx. 30cm size in length.



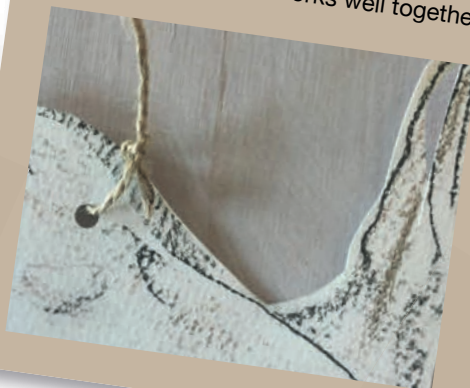
8

Attach with a strong string/twine 60cm in length and then fold in half and then attach together with a knot at the top and on each side of the stick to form a triangular shape.



9

Thread your string/twine through the hole of your selected pieces and have a play around with the length and positioning to see what sits and works well together.



10

Once you've decided, tie to the stick to secure its positioning and then find a place in your home to hang and enjoy!



We hope you will enjoy and please feel free to share your creations with us! We would love to see how you get on!

We would also like to thank Donna Jones for sharing this creative idea with us!

Ruthin Craft Centre, The Centre for the Applied Arts

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