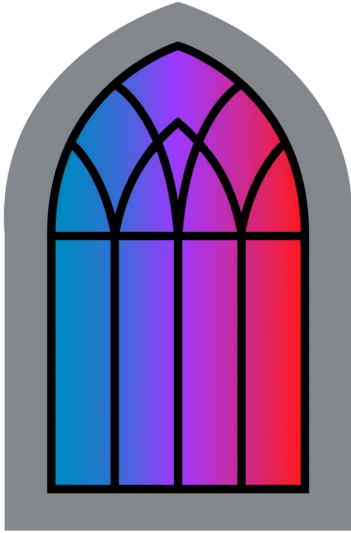


PLAY & CREATE

In this section you'll find lots of fun things to make and games to play



INDOOR GAMES & ACTIVITIES

Make bat biscuits or bat poo crumbles

Make a bat mask

Design a stained glass window

Make a hunky punk

Make a poster about bats for your
local church



OUTDOOR GAMES & ACTIVITIES

Play the bat and moth game

Meet a tree

Plant an acorn

Plant some insect-friendly plants

Make a bat box



Hunky punks are funny or scary carved figures that are found on churches in the west of England, particularly Somerset. In other parts of the country hunky punks are called grotesques. You may see similar carvings called gargoyles that help drain water off the church roof, but hunky punks are just for decoration!



You can make your own hunky punk out of salt dough

INGREDIENTS

1 cup of plain flour

½ cup of salt

½ cup cold water

Extra flour for dusting

Blunt knife or spoon to help carve

Your imagination!

INSTRUCTIONS

Mix the salt and flour together in a bowl

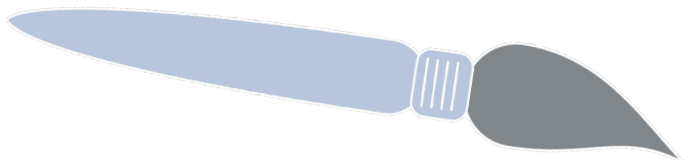
Add the water slowly and mix with your fingers until you make a dough. You may not need all the water

Dust a work surface with flour and knead your dough until it becomes smooth and not sticky

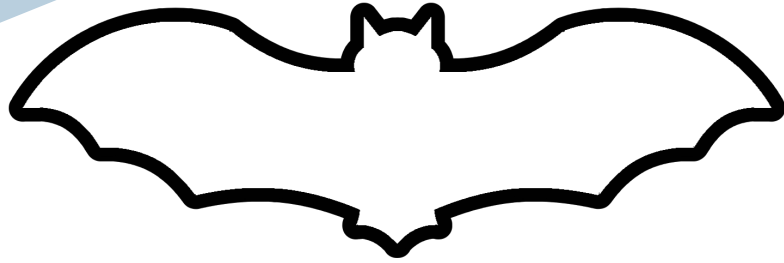
Shape and carve your dough into your very own hunky punk. It can be a realistic person or animal, or you can imagine your own creature

Bake your salt dough hunky punk in an oven at 120C until it is hard, or let it dry in a warm place

When cool you can paint your hunky punk any colour you like!



Bat Biscuits



225g /8oz self-raising flour

3 tbsp cocoa powder (or brown/black food colouring)

100g/4oz butter or vegan spread

100g/4oz caster sugar

5tsp milk or vegan alternative

Sieve the flour and cocoa into a bowl

Rub the butter into the flour until it looks like breadcrumbs

Stir in the sugar

Add the milk and mix to a firm dough. You may need to add more milk or flour to get the right consistency

Roll the dough on a floured surface

Use a bat-shaped cutter or print out and cut around the template to make your bat biscuits

Place on a greased tray and bake at 180C for 8-10 minutes.

Cool and decorate your biscuits!

100g/4oz butter or vegan spread

100g/4oz chocolate

2tbsp golden syrup

Crushed biscuits, mixed nuts, peanuts, glace cherries, desiccated coconut, puffed rice cereal, mini marshmallows, or any other treats you like!

Bat Poo Crumbles

Melt the butter, syrup and chocolate over hot water, or very carefully in short bursts in the microwave

Stir your other ingredients together and pour over the melted chocolate mixture. Use just enough of the chocolate mixture to hold your ingredients together

Put rough spoonfuls of your mix onto greased baking paper on a plate or tray

Chill in the fridge until set

The Bat & Moth Game



Bats use echolocation to find their food in the dark. They make loud, high-pitched calls that echo back when they hit a moth or another insect. They also use echolocation to find their way around and avoid bumping into trees!

You can play with one bat and one moth, or as many bats and moths as you like!

WHAT YOU NEED

Blindfold(s). You can use a sleep mask or a scarf

A safe area to run around in with nothing to trip over

HOW TO PLAY

Find a safe, open space, and get everyone to stand in a circle.

Choose one child to be the bat and one or more children to be moths

Have the bat and moths stand inside the circle. The children still in the circle are woodland trees

Blindfold the bat

The bat shouts the word “bat” as many times as they like

Every time the bat shouts “bat” the moths must shout “moth”

The bat has to listen for the sound of the moths and get close enough to tag them. The moths can move around inside the circle to avoid being caught

Once a moth is tagged they have been eaten and are out of the game

To make the game harder pick several moths and several bats

To make the game even harder everyone in the circle can shout “tree” when the bat shouts “bat”



Meet a Tree

WHAT YOU NEED

Blindfold(s). You can use a scarf or sleep mask

A safe area with trees

If you can't get to a safe area with trees, or want to stay indoors, you could play this game with leaves, twigs or any other natural objects



HOW TO PLAY

Split into pairs. One child puts on the blindfold

The other child chooses a tree and leads their partner to it, making sure they don't bump into anything or trip over

The blindfolded child meets the tree and gives it a hug. Let them feel how rough the bark is, how big the tree is, is there moss or lichen growing on it, are there any leaves or branches, does the tree have a smell?

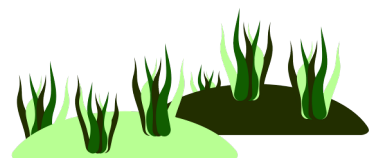
After a few minutes the other child leads their partner back to where they started from

The first child takes off their blindfold and tries to find the tree they met!

Swap over and play the game again so everyone can meet a tree

IF YOU CAN'T MEET A TREE YOU COULD COLLECT SEVERAL LEAVES, GIVE YOUR BLINDFOLDED PARTNER A LEAF TO MEET, AND THEN SEE IF THEY CAN RECOGNISE IT

What other natural items could
you try this with..?



Plant a Tree

Trees are great for all sorts of wildlife. They provide homes for insects, birds, and roosts for bats. Even dead trees are full of cracks and crevices for roosting bats, and for insects.

PLANT YOUR OWN OAK TREE

Look for an oak tree—you can identify an oak by its leaves

In the autumn, collect acorns from the ground beneath the oak tree. Do not pick acorns from the tree itself

Find a small flower pot or make some drainage holes in the bottom of a plastic tub. An empty yogurt pot is perfect

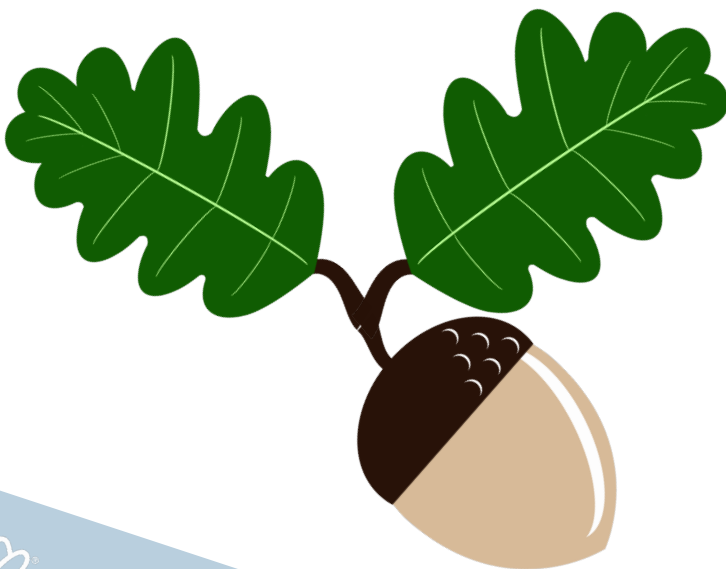
Fill the pot with peat-free compost or soil

Push the acorns into the soil until they're about 2cm below the surface and make sure they're covered in compost

Leave your pots outside, even on a balcony or window sill. Keep the soil damp

Be patient! You may not see your acorn growing until the spring

You can also try this with conkers (Horse Chestnut) or other tree seeds



Grow Some Insect Friendly Plants

Bats in the UK don't feed on plants, however the moths and other insects that the bats eat definitely do need plants to survive!

You can help provide food for bats by growing some insect friendly plants in a pot, tub or in your garden

Try a mix of as many different colours and types of flowers as you can

Look for night-scented plants and flowers like Stocks, Petunias, Honeysuckle, Jasmine or Evening Primrose that will attract moths and other night-flying insects



Pale or white flowers can be better at attracting night-flying insects like moths

Look for simple flowers with one layer of petals. These are easier for insects to feed from

Look for native British wildflowers as well as ornamental garden plants

If you have a garden or lawn, leave an area of it to grow wild and see what grows! Even long grass can be great for attracting insects



Make a Bat or Church Poster

A poster or notice is a great way to tell people more about your local bats, or your local church. You could make a poster for your church, telling visitors about the bats or about the history of the church itself.

THINK ABOUT INCLUDING

What species of bat are in the church

How many bats are in the church

Your favourite facts about bats

Lots of photos or drawings of bats

Why bats might damage the church, or why parts of the church may be covered to protect them from bats

How old the church is

A plan or map of the church

Interesting things to see in the church

Your favourite facts about the church

Photos or drawings of the church

How the church looks after its bats

Any events happening at the church

HERE ARE SOME EXAMPLES. YOU CAN DESIGN YOUR OWN POSTER IN ANY WAY YOU LIKE



Stained Glass In Churches

STAINED GLASS WINDOWS are found in lots of churches.

They are made from pieces of coloured glass cut into shapes and fixed with lead, plain glass with the picture or design painted on, or a mixture of both.

Here are some examples of stained glass windows.



Some stained glass has pictures of animals and wildlife, including bats!



A BAT IN STAINED GLASS AT ST PETER'S CHURCH, NETHERSEAL, DERBYSHIRE. CAN YOU WORK OUT WHAT SPECIES OF BAT THIS IS?



THE MILLENNIUM WINDOW AT ST PETER, GUESTWICK,
NORFOLK SHOWING LOCAL WILDLIFE.
HOW MANY DIFFERENT PLANTS
AND ANIMALS CAN
YOU SEE?