



Summer is here and it's time for ocean-themed crafts you can easily do at home! All you need for this starfish craft is salt, dough, and water. It couldn't be any simpler!



### Salt Dough Supplies

- 2 cups flour
- 2 cups salt
- 1 cup water

1. Mix all the ingredients together in a bowl until thoroughly combined. Knead for a few minutes until the dough comes together and is soft.



2. To create a starfish shape, start with a small ball of dough. Flatten slightly and then gently pull out five “blobs” evenly spaced around the center to form the arms. Since starfish are symmetrical, try to make the arms as equal as possible. Add more dough or take some off if a starfish arm is too big or small.

Tip: Lightly flour your work surface to prevent starfish from sticking.

3. Gently pull on each arm and shape it to look like a starfish. You can push on the sides and lightly tap all over to make the basic starfish shape. Be patient – it will take several tries before you get the hang of it!



4. Now comes the fun part – customizing your starfish! Look on the internet for pictures of real starfish to get ideas. There are so many varieties of starfish – look at shapes and textures and use your creativity and try to duplicate them.

We made long and skinny starfish, and starfish that were bumpy. Roll small balls of dough between your fingers, or between your index finger and the palm of your other hand, and press them lightly on top of the starfish.



We even added small holes with a pencil tip in some starfish to make them look more realistic.

5. After you finish forming all of your starfish, you can let them air dry over a few days. Or you can bake them if you're feeling a little impatient!

Baking instructions: Carefully place your starfish on a non-stick baking sheet and bake in a 325° oven until they are firm to touch and baked through. This can take about an hour for a small starfish and 2-3 hours for a bigger, thicker starfish.

