

Tips for bites based on crafts or making things

*In our experience some of the most successful bites are those relating to craft items from other countries – have the real items on display if possible. The item you ask people to make **MUST BE VERY SIMPLE**. A person with a normal level of skill must be able to complete it in 10 minutes, especially if you are using it in a drop-in context. Ideally it is so simple that once started the maker can continue working on it while thinking and talking about a global issue.*

It is essential to practise making the item yourself first, so that you can explain it and make it with confidence.

You must risk assess the process, with the likely age of your participants in mind. If necessary, adapt the method to reduce risk. *For example, if you are making God's eyes, and you expect small children, use lolly sticks as the basis instead of sharper sticks or fiddly little cocktail sticks. With Adinkra printing make sure you use paint that will wash off.* Advise your helpers about possible dangers, and devise a method for keeping track of scissors, needles, and anything else potentially dangerous, and ensure that these are never accessible to children without supervision.



If children are involved, and need help with certain processes (eg tying knots) makes sure you have plenty of volunteers. If volunteers have to work closely with individual children make sure you yourself feel comfortable about this, and that they have a CRB check.

Don't help the makers unless they want you to. Let them choose how they do it. Make sure you have plenty of materials for them to choose from. Praise the outcome of their efforts. Let them take it home!

Make sure you have a list of all the equipment you are using and that you check it in and out.

If possible use scrapstore materials or other recycled materials. This saves money and the environment.

If the event is a fête or fair organised by someone else, make sure they give you enough space to work in and suitable tables, and make sure you know what the wet weather arrangements are and whether you are expected to bring your own gazebo, tables, chairs.

Use background materials which clearly relate to the global issue you want to focus on, and are well displayed and easy to see from where the craft items are being made. Sometimes it is more effective to have folders of photos to get out and show, especially if there is good display space.

Have handouts for them to take away. A good strategy is to have "How to make it" instructions on one side, and some pointers about the global issue on the other.

SEE OUR GLOBAL BITES CATALOGUE FOR BITES RECIPES