

Nellie's Nature Craft

triangular prism of memories

Next time you're strolling down one of Lake Michigan's beautiful sandy beaches enjoying the warmth under your feet, keep an eye out for unique stones, shells and a nice small piece of sun-bleached driftwood. I've even found some perfectly clean, dry crayfish claws and soft colorful globs of broken glass worn smooth by the sand, wind and waves.

Once you've gathered some beach keepsakes, you can capture the time at the beach in something that can be uniquely displayed.

Materials:

Collect some small shells, stones and a piece of driftwood or any little unique thing that catches your eye

Gather up about 1/3 cup of beach sand

Special stained glass supplies:

2 – 8.5" x 2" glass bevels

1 – 8.5" x 2" piece of blue stained glass for the base to represent water

2 – 2" triangles of plain clear glass to be soldered on the ends

Soldering gun

1/4" Copper foil tape

Masking tape

Glass cutter

Solder

Flux



Start by taping the outer edges of all the glass pieces with the 1/4" copper foil tape. Use the masking tape to hold the 8.5" pieces of glass together to create a triangular prism. Using six small pieces of masking tape near the ends will work best to hold the glass in place when you solder them together. One edge of the prism at a time, brush the flux onto the copper foil. Then on the same edge, solder along and remove the masking tape as you proceed to the end. Repeat for the two remaining 8.5" edges. Next, solder one 2" triangle to an end. Now fill with sand and other artifacts and solder the remaining end to seal. After completely cooling, wash the soldered edges with soapy water and dry. Now you have completed a Triangular Prism of Memories!