

Okra Art Activities

Here are some fun art projects that you can do with okra! We encourage you to use okra pieces that are inedible, usually when they are too tough to be eaten.



Okra Stamps

Materials

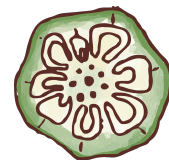
- Okra
- Paper, fabric or canvas
- Tempera or poster paint (when printing on paper)
- Acrylic paint or fabric paint (when painting on fabric)
- Palette or small plates
- Knife and chopping board
- Paint brush (optional)



Activity and photos borrowed from www.firstpalette.com/craft/okra-stamps.html

Steps

1. Collect okra pieces that are too tough to be eaten.
2. Create the okra stamps by cutting pieces from the top or crown of the okra, about an inch long.
3. Dip an okra stamp in paint.
4. Press and lift the okra stamp from your paper or fabric.
5. Stamp more flower shapes using your remaining okra to create a beautiful picture!



Dried Okra Wreath



Steps

- Begin by gathering okra pods that are too tough to eat. Spread these pods out on a baking sheet and allow them to dry completely. This process may take a few days.
- Take students outside to find other materials that can be added as decoration to the wreath. Let them collect items like acorns, flowers, leaves, or sweetgum balls that will add more detail to your wreath!
- Use the wreath frame as a base and allow students to arrange the materials on top, starting with the dried okra and then adding the additional decorations.
- Once all of the materials have been assembled on the wreath foundation, have an adult hot glue these pieces onto the wreath frame. If you've chosen to use twine, allow the children to start tying on the materials to the frame.

Materials

- Dried okra
- Wooden frame for the base of the wreath
 - You can find one online such as the one in the photo
- Hot glue gun (for adult use only)
 - Or you can use twine to tie on materials so that children can participate as well!
- Small natural decorations



Activity and photos borrowed from Ms. Ladybug, Andrea Zoppo

Make Okra Ornaments!

Materials

- Dried Okra
- Acrylic Paint
- Ribbon
- Small Natural Decorations
- Paint Brushes
- Wax Paper
- Hot Glue Gun (Adult use only) or a strong glue
- Needle and Thread (Adult use only)



Activity and photos adapted from <https://chloesblog.bigmill.com/okra-santa-ornaments-from-the-garden-at-big-mill/>

Steps

1. Start by painting the okra in any color of your choosing. Once finished, spread the okra out on wax paper to let it dry completely.
2. Take the needle and thread and poke a hole through the stem or top of the pod. Run the length of thread through the hole and tie it off to make a hanger. It will take around 5-6 inches of thread.
3. Tie a bow with the ribbon, and glue it on to the okra ornament. Then, glue the smaller decorations from nature onto the ornament. Hang up your beautiful ornament and enjoy!

Extract Okra Slime!

Materials

- Okra pods
- Rolling Pin
- Colander
- Water
- Jar



Steps

1. Gather overgrown pods that are not good for eating anymore (you can use roots and leaves too).
2. Use a rolling pin to crush the pods (if you are using roots and leaves, chop them up)
3. Place the crushed and chopped material in a bowl and cover with water. Let this sit for 1-8 hours
4. Pour the liquid and vegetable matter through a colander or cheesecloth. The liquid components will flow quite slowly, so you must allow time for it to drain out. If using the cheesecloth, squeeze for maximum extraction
5. Use immediately or store in a jar in the fridge for about a week until it has a slime texture.

Activity and photos adapted from "The Whole Okra" by: Chris Smith

Okra Food Art

Materials

- Plate
- Around 16 Okra pieces
- 2 Radishes
- 1 bunch of Parsley
- 2 Carrots



Activity and photos borrowed from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C6PC4MZTC3M>

Steps

1. Begin by slicing the carrots and radishes, with medium thickness. These will be used for the middle of the flower.
2. Next, take the pieces of okra and cut them in half. These pieces will be used for the petals of the flower.
3. Then, take the parsley and make it into little bunches. This will be used for the middle of the flower.
4. Grab your plate and start constructing your flower starting from the middle and moving towards the outside. Place the carrots and radishes in a circle and then layer the pieces on top of one another.
5. Spread the parsley bunches around the middle of the flower. After this, spread the okra halves around the circle to make the petals.
6. Enjoy your yummy okra art!

