

Making a Simple Model of a Cook Islands Canoe for the 2025 World Day of Prayer Display Table

Please note:

This model is very simple but fairly flimsy.

It is designed to be carried carefully to your WDP service and placed gently on the display table.

Sadly, it will not withstand being played with by small children, and it doesn't float on water!

Remember, no-one is going to inspect it closely, so don't worry if you have an accidental hole in the foam in the wrong place or have sticky tape showing. (I had both in the model used at our Preparation Day and no-one complained!)

I hope I have used the correct nautical terms and, if I haven't, I hope you know what I mean!

You'll need:

- **Brown foam sheet**, 2mm thick, A4.
- **Thin sticks**, **3**, about 3-5 mm thick and each about 15cm long (I used trimmings from the buddleia in the garden, but wooden kebab skewers would work).
- **Thicker sticks**, **2**, about 8-10 mm thick, one about 27cm and the other about 30cm long.
- **A sail**. I wove some pale brown raffia and cut the sail from that, using sticky tape to stop it fraying at the edges. However, a piece of fabric would do just as well. An old white hankie would be big enough. If you wanted it darker coloured, dye it with tea or by boiling it with onion skins.
- **String** or vegetation-coloured wool (brown/green/amber)
- **Glue** for holding the sail onto the masts
- **WDP logo** drawn or printed on paper - optional

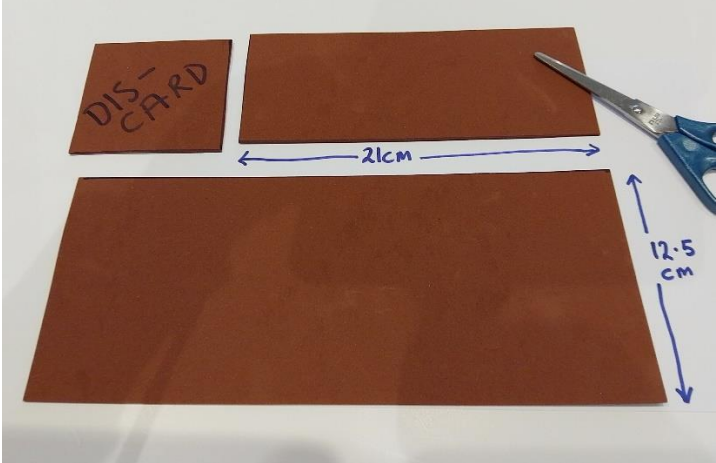
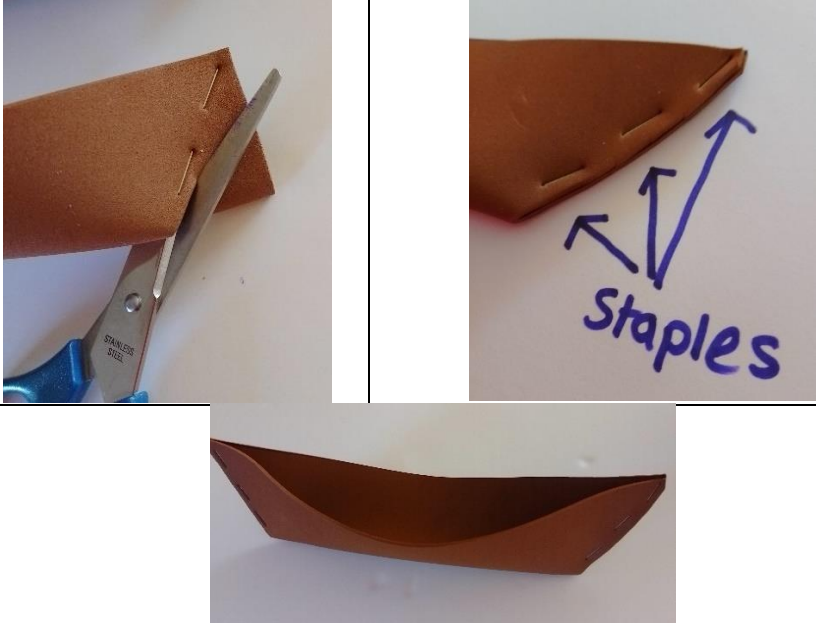
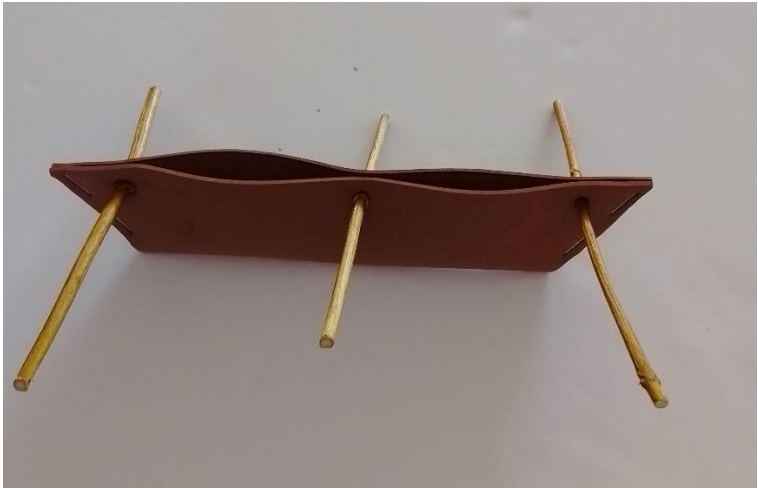
Tools:

- **Ruler**
- **Marker pen**
- **Scissors**
- **Stapler**
- Something with which to cut the sticks – as I used twigs from the garden, I used **secateurs**.

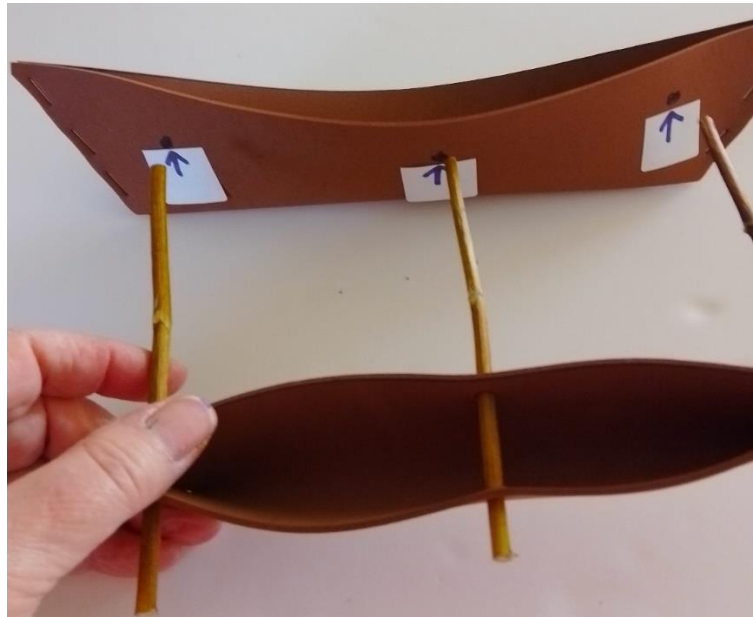


*Cook Islands Canoe
Angela Morfett-Jones, Lincoln WDP Committee*

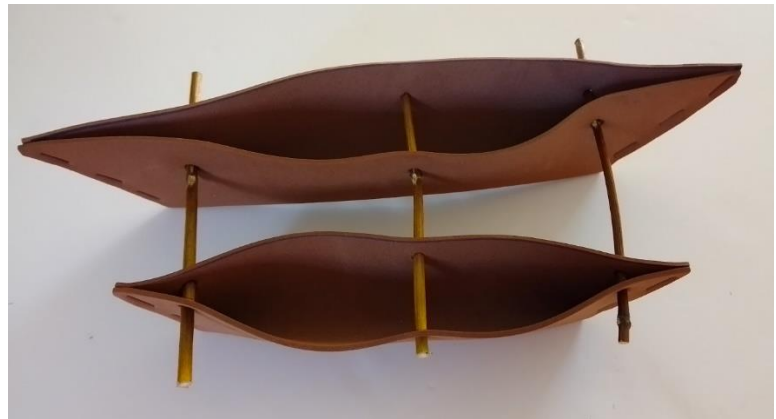
Method:

1. Making the hull and outrigger	
<p>a. Cut the foam sheet like this: one piece is the length of the sheet (30cm) cut to 12.5cm high. Trim the other piece at 21cm. Discard the remaining small square.</p>	
<p>b. Gently bend both parts in half length-wise and staple the ends of the hull and the outrigger at an angle. Trim to shape the front and the back of both parts.</p>	
2. Joining the hull and the outrigger	
<p>a. Start with the smaller part – the outrigger. Poke the 3 thin sticks through the foam, near the top edge. One in the middle and the other two nearer the ends. Be cautious about making the holes: I relied on friction between the sticks and the foam to hold it all in place. If your holes in the foam are too loose, you might need to apply some glue to stop the foam slipping along the stick.</p>	

b. Place both the hull and the outrigger on the table side by side.
By doing this you can see where on the hull the sticks need to pierce the foam.
The three thin sticks need to be roughly parallel with each other and roughly parallel with the table. Mark the location of the proposed piercings with pen – see where I’ve indicated with arrows.



c. Poke the thin sticks through the hull to hold the outrigger to the hull.



3. Making the masts and sail

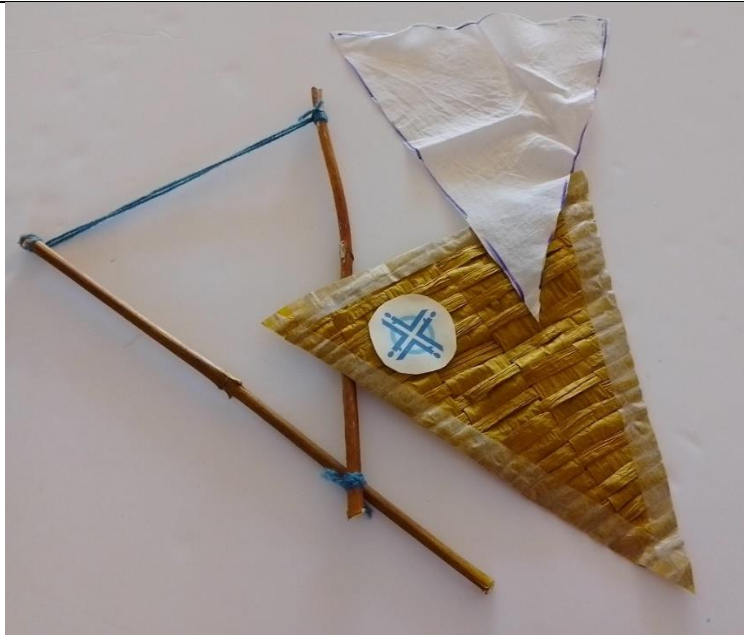
a. Use string or wool to tie the two thicker sticks together, to make the masts, like in the picture. Add a piece of string or wool, tied to the tops of the masts like this, to make a triangular shape.



b. Lay your masts on your sail material, then mark what size you'll need the sail to be. (If you are using woven raffia, seal the edges with sticky tape.)



c. Cut out the sail. Here is a picture of both types of sail and the masts. If you wish, apply the WDP logo onto the sail.



d. Put glue along the outside of the masts and the string and fix on the sail. I've stuck on the raffia sail here, but you can see the hankie-sail, too.



4. Fixing the mast to the canoe

a. Poke the free end of the mast through the bottom of the hull, making sure it is positioned next to the middle thin horizontal stick.



b. Using string or wool, tie the mast to the middle thin horizontal stick. This knot needs to be tight. If you remember square lashing from your Scouting or Girlguiding days, use that. The secret is to wrap the string a few times *between* the sticks, after you have tied them together. Look up 'square lashing video' in your favourite search engine, if you need extra guidance.

