



## Christmas Crafts from Around the World

### CARIBBEAN

From pre-dawn swims to all-night street parties, this is how Christmas is done in the Caribbean. Like much of the world, the Caribbean celebrates the Christmas holiday season with music, lights, food and gift giving. But islanders have also created a number of their own traditions, adding even more cheer to the end of the year. Here are five celebrations that are unique to the Caribbean.

If you wake up on Christmas morning in Grand Cayman Island and see front yards covered in a blanket of white, you aren't imagining things. Lacking snow, islanders created the tradition of the Sand Yard. Starting in late October, buckets of white beach sand are carried to homes, and deposited in piles in the front yard. On December 24th, piles are raked into even blankets of white, and are not to be stepped on until Christmas morning. The tradition has faded in urban areas, but may still be seen in traditional neighborhoods.

#### Star of Shells

Find shells of different sizes and shapes to hot glue gun together to form a star! You can use this as a paper weight or add some wire to make into an ornament. Enjoy!

