Treasure Jars

A long time ago when sailors would travel around the world in large ships, they would collect items to remind them of all the places they had been to. Some sailors would display or show their 'treasures'.

At the Old Royal Naval College, we thought it would be fun to display some nautical themed treasure in 'treasure jars'. We used brightly coloured sand, toy jewels and coins, beautiful feathers and small wooden tokens in the shape of anchors and ships wheels. We also added drawings of fish that hang from the inside of our lid.

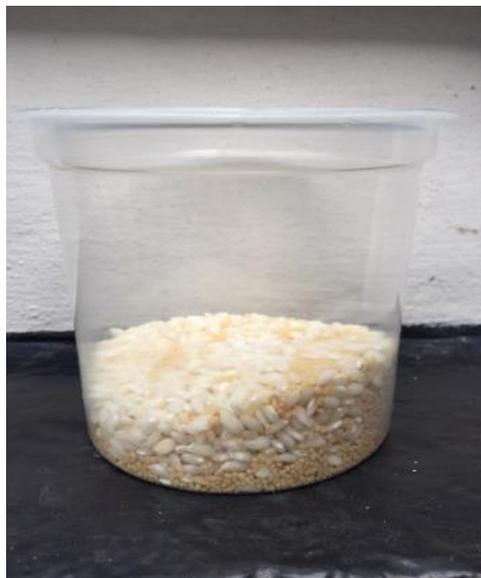Would like to have a go at making your own 'treasure jars'?

♦ You can choose things that are special to you.
♦ Maybe find items around your home or garden.
♦ You can draw little pictures of family or friends.
♦ You can add pictures and stickers

Here are some instructions to help you make your very own 'treasure jar'.

First, find a jar, ideally plastic, with a lid.

Fill the bottom of your jar with something like rice or lentils (this is our pretend sand to bury our treasure in!) We used couscous and rice.

Now you need to think about what lovely items you would like to display in your treasure jar. You can choose whatever you would like. Look around your home and in your garden.

- ◆ Are there any nice things you could include?
- ◆ Maybe a nice pebble or bead or a pretty leaf?

Could you draw a picture of someone or something that you like to add to your jar? We chose:

- ♦ a brightly coloured feather
- ♦ some pretty shells
- ♦ a small piece of fabric
- ♦ an interesting looking stone and two little toy dogs

You can choose whatever is something that is a treasure to you.
Place the items into the jar, spacing them out until you are happy with where they are.

You may want to decorate your lid with your name or with patterns.
We used some gold paper, pens and a sticker of a bird.

Once you have finished decorating your lid, place it on the jar.
If you can, use some Sellotape to secure the lid to the jar.
Now your treasure jar is complete! Congratulations!