

BALLOON RELEASES - WHAT ARE THE ALTERNATIVES?

Releasing balloons may seem like a harmless and fun way to celebrate, but unfortunately they pose a key threat to the Great Barrier Reef and our oceans as a whole.

Celebrations make life special and we can commemorate these occasions with eco party alternatives that are fun, lasting, and memorable, which show just how much we care for each other, as well as our natural world.



Balloons found during a Tangaroa Blue beach clean-up event

PLANT A TREE	THROW A SEED BOMB
Planting trees is a great way to mark an occasion, remember someone special, or provide a fun activity for kids where they can create a special space that they can revisit any time. Check out your local plant nursery or farmers market for Indigenous plants that provide habitat for native animals when planted in your garden.	Gather your favourite flower seeds and your friend and create seed bombs, which are fun to throw and continue to give back as the flowers grow and the wildlife moves in. Make sure these seeds are native to your area!
USE NATURAL CONFETTI	PAINT STONES
Collect dried leaves and petals and using hole punches of different shapes and sizes, create confetti rain that will catch in your hair and give back to the earth.	Collect a stone that speaks to you, and make it yours with your own special design. Please note that stones, or other natural objects can not be taken from National Parks or Cultural Sites.
DECORATE A KITE	FLY ECO BUNTING
Decorating your own kite then flying them with friends is a great way to fill the sky with colour.	These fabric banners add flair and finesse to any get together and can be reused and shared amongst friends.

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TO WATCH
OUR VIDEO



CLICK FOR
EXAMPLES!



FAST FACTS



Balloons can travel up to 800km from their release point.¹



Balloons, even latex ones, are not 'biodegradable', meaning they hang around in the environment as litter for years.^{4, 5}

For more information visit
www.tangaroablue.org



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The Australian Marine Debris Initiative (AMDl) Database confirms balloons are regularly found in marine debris collections.

Balloons, even latex ones, are not 'biodegradable', meaning they hang around in the environment as litter for years, all the while posing a threat to wildlife. Many sea turtles mistakenly ingest balloon remnants that look like jellyfish.



Burst balloons can look a lot like jellyfish to the unsuspecting marine animal, including turtles

<u>LIGHT A CANDLE</u>	<u>MAKE A WISH ON A PIN WHEEL</u>
Scented candles create a special atmosphere at any gathering.	Craft your own pinwheel and make a wish as it catches the wind.
<u>FOLD YOUR FAVOURITE ANIMAL</u>	<u>THE PAVEMENT IS YOUR CANVAS</u>
Origami animals create fabulous party themes and are fun for little hands to fold.	Let your inner artist flourish as you transform the pavement with a rainbow of chalk designs and colours.
<u>GET MESSY WITH CLAY</u>	<u>SHAKE YOUR PAPER POM POMS</u>
You can create anything out of clay; pinch pots, animal sculptures, jewellery or even a model of yourself! When they are painted in bright colours, they add a personal touch to your event.	Add a splash of colour to the party space by creating your own paper pom poms.

CLICK FOR EXAMPLES!



Let your inner artist shine and decorate the pavement



Make homemade paper pom poms to celebrate

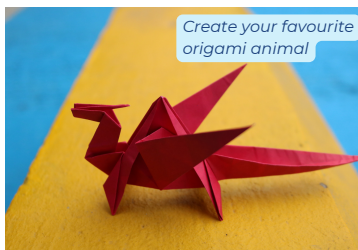
WATCH OUR VIDEO HERE



Light a candle for some ambience



make a pin wheel turn circles



Create your favourite origami animal



Create clay shapes and decorations

FAST FACTS



Sea turtles mistakenly ingest balloon remnants that look like jellyfish. Balloon debris is 32 times more likely to result in death to seabirds.^{2 3}

- <https://www.gld.gov.au/environment/management/waste/litter-illegal-dumping/balloons>
- <https://www.zoo.org.au/balloons>
- <https://www.nature.com/articles/c41598-018-36585-9>
- http://seaturtle.org/library/BurchetteDK_2000_Astudyoftheeffectofballoonreleaseso.pdf
- <https://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/recycling-and-reducing-waste/at-home/avoid-waste/minimise-single-use-items/balloons>

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