

# etc

July 2016

Sussex edition

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## **BRIGHT** ideas for summer

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**CREATING RACE HORSES  
AT WESTERLANDS STUD**

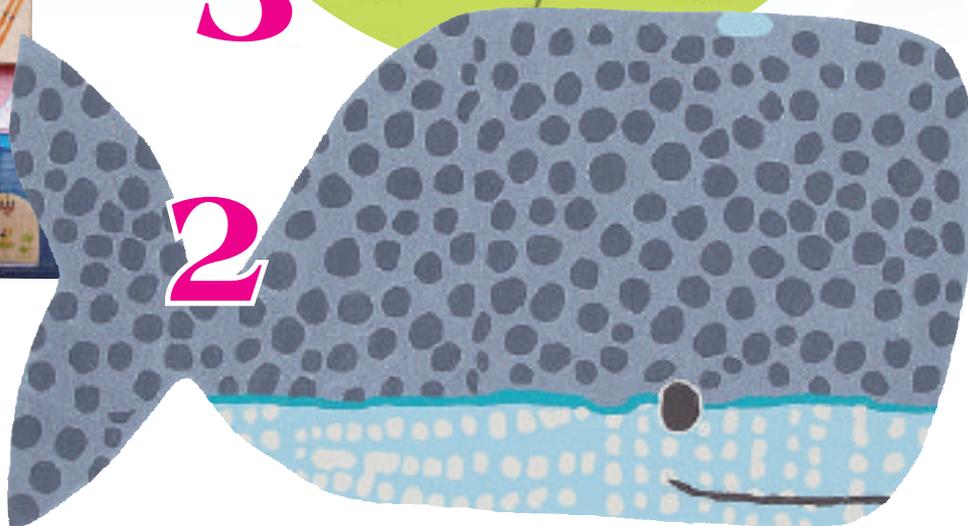
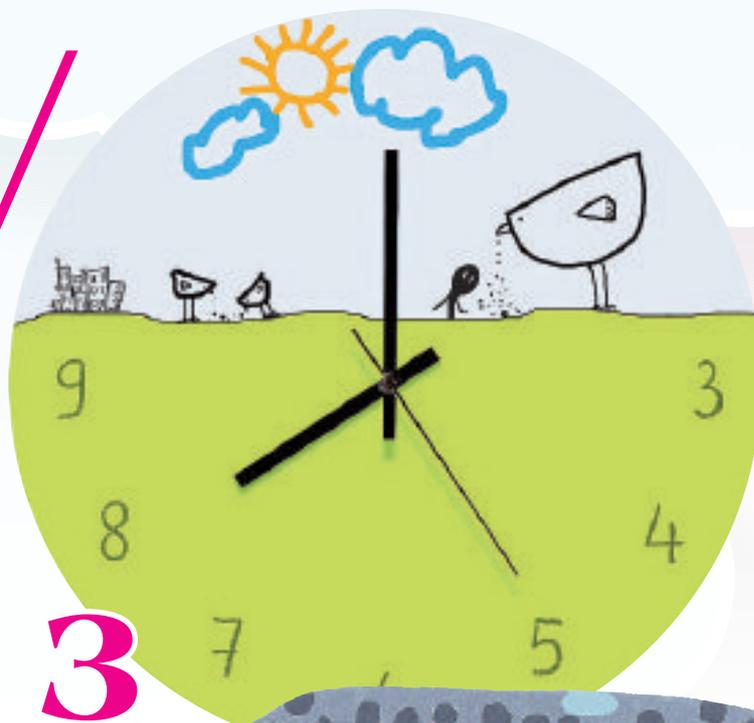
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# Play time

Create the perfect playroom with tips from CLARE HUDSON of Clare Hudson Design in Steyning.



Clare Hudson Design is an interior design and architecture practice in Steyning that offers a complete service from concept to completion.

The company believes that good design does not have to cost the earth and for each project it creates a unique design concept that suits the clients' taste and lifestyle.

For complex renovation projects the interior architecture service is the ticket. Producing all the CAD drawings and 3D visuals in-house, it delivers interiors through the spatial adaptation of an existing footprint.

If you are not planning major building work to your home but want to give it an update, then the design service is the answer.

The team will work closely with you to understand your requirements before producing comprehensive mood boards that compile colour and soft furnishing schemes. From updating one room to an entire property refurbishment, let Clare Hudson Design transform your home.

■ Clare Hudson Design Studio, 10 Southdown Terrace, Station Road, Steyning. Call 01903 814240, 07825544168 or visit [www.clarehudsondesign.co.uk](http://www.clarehudsondesign.co.uk)

According to the English dictionary a playroom is 'a room designed or set aside for recreation or playing'. With that in mind, let go of all the rules you apply elsewhere in your home and with our industry tips, you'll not only discover the inner child in yourself but create a magical space for your children.

## COLOUR

Visual learning is a vital aspect of a child's development and colour is key to this. Children are constantly in need of sensory stimulation and bright colours such as vibrant reds and sunshine yellows will entice them into activity.

This is the one room in your home where you can go wild, be bold with your palette. The more imaginative the better; as playrooms should spark children's imaginations.

You don't need to stick to the walls to add colour. The ceiling is an often-forgotten gem. As children frequently roll around on the floor or loll about gazing upwards during a story, add a patterned wallpaper or map to create interest.

## THEME

While colour can be your best friend in decorating a space, sticking to a theme or concept will help unify the scheme.

From pirates to fairies, mountains to jungles, design themes will keep you on track from colours and fabrics to bespoke joinery ideas such as boat-shaped dens to teepees hidden in a jungle.

## SEATING

Create a relaxing area for reading or watching a film. Beanbags are great as a low-cost option



but a sofa bed or day bed is more functional if you have the space, allowing the room to double up as a great sleep-over room.

Depending on your ceiling makeup, a swing or hanging seat will always make a statement.

#### WORKSPACE AND LEARNING TOOLS

From toddler to teen, children need a space where they can sit at a table to work. Whether it is to colour in, paint or do their homework, making a designated work station is imperative.

To protect against glue on the floor or glitter galore, put a removable, washable

mat under the chairs and tables to catch any mishaps. Choose a material that can be easily folded up and washed down.

If space is an issue, a flip-down wall-mounted table works just as well. For subtle educational elements consider adding a clock above the tables, paint one wall with blackboard paint or add a large wall map.

#### STORAGE

Rule number one is make it accessible. This will not only instill an early ethos of tidying away but will mean children can access all the

1. Raffia Play & Toy Storage Baskets £29.50 Sisters Guild
2. Kids Buddy Whale Rug £189 Kelaty
3. Wall Clock Three Birds £17.20 DaWanda
4. Solvej Baby Toddler Swing £153 Solve J Swings
5. Chester & Fred Rocking Horse £160 Little Bird Told Me
6. Roofus desk & chair £495 Loaf
7. Paint Splashes World Map £72 Maps International

books and toys they want by themselves.

You will need storage for pens, paints and paper, soft toys to action heroes, books and games – and remember a chest for fancy dress costumes.

#### FLOORING

My advice would be to stick to a hard flooring such as wood or a laminate to allow for train tracks to be built and tractors to be pulled around.

In the seating area add a colourful, soft rug to help zone the space.