

# Crafts for celebrating Hinamatsuri:

## Kokeshi Emperor/Empress play dolls

Well, I had nice step-by-step pix of how to paint them, and somehow lost the ones in the middle that show painting the clothes. (How does that happen?) It's pretty easy, though. This would be a fun craft with kids – buy a bag of unfinished wooden dolls and paint an entire royal court!

The empress was based on this: <http://www.shinyshack.com/product.php?prid=214740&pn=Kokeshi-Doll---Hangokoro> and the Emperor is my design



These are traditional cakes called hishi mochi made from glutinous rice flour

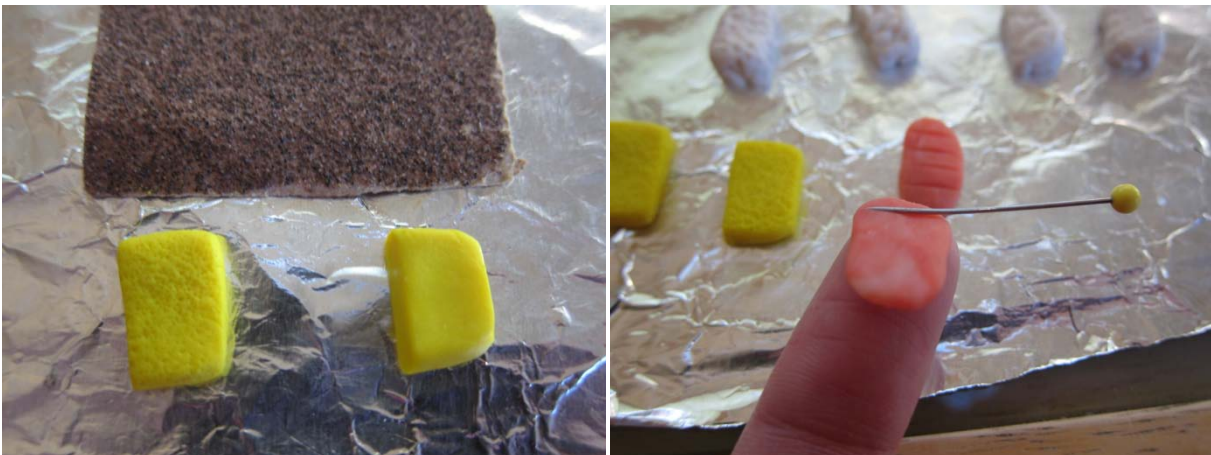




Also often served is Chirashizushi. I based these on Orcara miniatures (see them here: [http://jenwrenne.wordpress.com/2013/01/01/happy-new-year/img\\_7774r1/](http://jenwrenne.wordpress.com/2013/01/01/happy-new-year/img_7774r1/))



Make a texture block: press uncooked rice into a piece of soft clay randomly until you get a pattern you like. Bake as per package directions. (You may have something else that would work too, like the play-doh bread mold shown here). Press the mold into blocks of white mixed with translucent.



Egg-topped rice cube: texture the “egg” with coarse sandpaper. The “fish” is pale pink mixed with translucent with a pin pushed in the top for texture.



Mix green and black for “Nori” (seaweed) and texture with crumpled foil



Wrap "Nori" around a ball of translucent and make little balls for the top.  
Use extra "fish" color to make a ginger flower and leftover green from the mochi for wasabi.



Varnish things that should be shiny in real life. I use acrylic paint varnish.