



Dough Art

Skills Learned: Creativity / Play, Language / Literacy Skills, Fine Motor Skills, Math – Counting and Measurement, Social Skills - Cooperation

Dough art is homemade "Play-Dough" that can easily be made with children. It is a great way to get children to talk to one another and with you. It encourages creativity and the use of fine motor skills and can be a very calming activity.

Directions

This recipe makes one batch. Make several recipes, each a different color! Include the children in making the play dough.

- 1 Add all of the dry ingredients first. (Be sure to encourage the children to measure and then to count as they add the ingredients!)
- 2 Add the water.
- 3 Do the initial mixing and then have the children join in.
- 4 For colored play dough, add food coloring.

Allow the children plenty of time to explore and to play with the dough before giving suggestions about what to make.

Dough art is a great activity for children to do in a group. It sets the stage for much conversation. You can encourage language skills by asking the children open-ended questions such as... "What does the play dough feel like" or "What do you like about the play dough?"

After the children have had time to explore freely, give them some additional materials to decorate their dough art, (e.g. pipe cleaners, feathers etc.)

Note: Store homemade play dough in a plastic, airtight container. It can be used over and over.

Tips For Mixed Ages: Even very young children will enjoy the feel of the play dough. Added materials such as buttons, sparkles, etc. should not be used with younger children. These added materials are appropriate only for 4's and 5's.

Supplies

- ★ Large mixing bowl
- ★ Measuring spoons
- ★ Measuring cup
- ★ 2 Cups of flour
- ★ 1 Cup of salt
- ★ 2 Tablespoons of cooking oil
- ★ 1 Cup of water
- ★ 1 Tablespoon of cream of tartar
- ★ Food Coloring (optional)
- ★ Plastic place mats – 1 per child



Major funding provided by



A production of KCET/Los Angeles in association with Sesame Workshop.
A production of KCET/Los Angeles in association with 44 Blue Productions, Inc.

© 2007 Community Television of Southern California. All rights reserved.

www.aplaceofourown.org

