



Make Air Dry Clay

This short art activity promotes creative thinking and encourages material exploration.

Please send students' final product to ppe@casulapowerhouse.com or tag #CPACCREATIVES on social media.



Air dry clay is a versatile product that can be used in many art projects. Air dry clay hardens and cures at normal room temperature and once dry, can be painted and decorated in any way you choose. It can be used like normal clay to coil, slab, pinch, and score and weld and can be used as modeling clay.

If you are planning to use your clay later, place it in a ziplock bag and add a dash of vegetable oil to keep it moist.

Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup corn starch
- 1/2 cup craft/PVA glue
- 2 Tablespoons of vegetable oil (sunflower or canola oil also works)
- 1 Tablespoon of lemon juice
- Food colouring (if desired)

Tools:

- Microwave safe bowl
- Silicone or plastic spoon
- Wooden spoon
- Microwave
- Baking paper
- Petroleum jelly (Vaseline)

Method:

1. Add corn starch and glue to bowl
2. Stir both ingredients together with a silicone or plastic spoon to create a creamy consistency
3. Add vegetable oil and lemon juice to the mixture
4. Stir all ingredients together with a silicone or plastic spoon
5. Place bowl of ingredients in the microwave for 30 seconds on high
6. Remove the bowl from the microwave and stir
7. Place the bowl back in the microwave for another 30 seconds on high
8. Remove from the microwave and use a wooden spoon to knead and stir the mixture until the consistency is similar to dough
9. Place clay mixture onto a corn starch covered sheet of baking paper and gently knead, sprinkling more corn starch as you go
10. Once the clay mixture feels less sticky, pick it up and keep gently knead and massage in your hands
11. Your clay will be ready to use when it no longer feels sticky and has a smooth and creamy texture

If you would like to colour your clay, separate it into different bowls and add at least 2 drops of food colouring into each bowl. Using your hands, mix the clay and food colouring together until you've achieved a solid colour.



Keep your clay from drying out:

If you are using the clay and it feels like it's drying out too fast, add a small amount of petroleum jelly to your fingers whilst sculpting the clay.

Paint and decorate your clay:

Once you're finished sculpting your creation, let it sit for at least 24-48 hours, then paint and decorate with acrylic paints, glitter, sequins or even leaves!

Image by Karla Vidal-Unsplash