

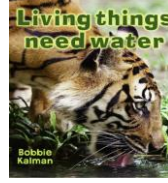


## Small Groups: Exploring Clay

### Support: Medium

**Standards:**

ELA.IT.D.PS.1 - 3  
 ELA.IT.I.PS.1 - 2  
 ELA.IT.LTC.PS.1  
 ELA.SL.CC.PS.1 - 3  
 PHD.FM.PS.6  
 CA.VA.PS.1 - 5

**Materials:**

- *Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain*
- *Rabbits And Raindrops*
- gray clay
- cups with water
- trays
- placemats
- smocks
- plastic knives, forks, spoons
- rolling pins
- popsicle sticks
- toothpicks
- *Score And Slip* visual (see Resources)
- paper towels

**Vocabulary:**

- clay
- knead: press, fold, and stretch
- score: mark with a tool like a knife
- slip: water used with clay
- slab: roll clay into flat sheets
- coil
- pinch: squeeze between two fingers

**Preparation:** Set up materials.

**Procedure:**

Note: This week, children are experiment with the new medium. Next week, they will create sculptures.

Show children illustrations from *Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain* and *Living Things Need Water*. Discuss how people and animals need water to survive. Discuss how water can also be used to create art, i.e., watercolors, crayon resist, etc.

Introduce another medium that uses water--clay. Remind children that they created *Clay Boats* in week 2 with plasticine, a different kind of clay.

Encourage children to experiment with different techniques working with the clay.

**Important:** Have children rinse hands in a bucket of water before using the sink. If clay goes down the sink drain, it can cause a clog.