

WEEK 1 Day 4

Art Studio: Clay 1: Exploration

Children play with clay and experiment with the score and slip technique.

Big Idea	Construction can be defined as the creation of products, including physical structures and works of art such as stories, dances, theatrical performances, and songs. The construction process can be similar across domains.
Guiding Questions	What processes help people construct structures, ideas, and works of art? How do people use different tools and materials for different purposes?
Vocabulary	<p>adhere: to stick together</p> <p>attach: to join, fasten, or connect</p> <p>moist: a little bit wet or damp</p> <p>score: (as in clay) to scratch</p> <p>slip: (v) to wet the clay with a glue-like liquid (n) a mixture of clay and water to be used like glue</p>
Materials and Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● clay ● wire clay cutting tool (for adult use) With this tool, divide the large block of clay into chunks, and then form balls approximately 2 inches in diameter. This will make the clay more manageable for children. ● spray bottle, filled with water ● ziploc bags ● paper towels, both wet and dry Roll each ball in a damp paper towel. Place some of the balls (about 20) into a large Ziploc bag, and spray into it a few times with water. Seal the bag tightly and place it in the Art Studio. ● trays, pieces of cardboard (about 8" square), etc., as bases for clay structures, one for each child ● newspaper, butcher paper, or (ideally) canvas, large enough to cover the Art Studio table ● masking or other strong tape, to secure the table covering Cover the table, rolling the edges around to the underside of the table, and tape the material securely. Canvas will absorb extra

	<p>moisture from the clay and does not need to be changed as frequently.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● forks ● small containers such as cups, recycled yogurt containers, etc., enough for each two children working at the table <p>Make clay slip: Mix a small amount of clay with water until it becomes a thick liquid, about the consistency of a smoothie. Put a few tablespoons of slip in each cup.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Score and Slip (resource) <p>Bring to the Intro to Centers: one ball of clay, a container of slip, a fork, and the Score and Slip resource.</p> <p>Spend some time exploring the clay prior to introducing it to the children. Work with the clay; try the score and slip technique; experiment with moisture; and experiment with tools.</p> <p>Suggestions for caring for the clay:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Clay must be kept moist at all times until children are ready to dry a finished sculpture. If the clay becomes dry, spray it with water and manually work the water into the clay. If the clay is too moist (sticks to hands), roll it on the newspaper or canvas to remove some moisture. ● Slip can be stored in an airtight container or made fresh each day. It can be refreshed as needed by adding a bit of water. ● At clean up time each day, have the children put unfinished clay back into a Ziploc bag, spray with water, and carefully seal the bag shut. Explain that if clay is not cared for in this way, it will dry out and be unusable. ● If clay dries on the tools, simply wash it off in a bin of warm water. ● Do not wash clay or even water that is dirty with clay down the sink. This will clog the drains.
<p>Intro to Centers</p>	<p><i>Today in the Art Studio we have a new medium to work with.</i></p> <p>Show a ball of clay and a cardboard base.</p> <p><i>This is clay. Artists use clay to make or build works of art known as sculptures. In the Art Studio, you can explore clay.</i></p> <p>Talk aloud while manipulating the clay, rolling it, pressing it flat, poking it.</p> <p><i>It can be tricky to attach two pieces of clay together.</i></p> <p>Demonstrate how two pieces of clay might stick together at first, but then fall apart.</p> <p><i>If you really want the pieces to adhere, or stick together, you can use a special technique called score and slip. Here's how to do it:</i></p>

	<p>Show the Score and Slip visuals, and model the steps.</p> <p><i>Let's see what you notice about the clay this week. You can make whatever you want with the clay! You can collaborate with a friend or work on your own. When you are finished working with the clay, please wrap it back up in a wet paper towel for another child to use. It's important to keep the clay moist, or a little wet.</i></p>
During Centers	<p>Children explore the clay, its texture, and different techniques of molding it, including score and slip. As they finish, they roll the clay back into a ball in a wet paper towel and place it into the ziplock bag. Encourage children to work as a team.</p> <p>Name and narrate actions on and observations of the clay. For example: <i>I notice that _____ is pinching the clay with her fingers.</i></p> <p>Take note of children's discoveries, successes, and challenges.</p>
Facilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How does the clay feel? ● What happens when you (push, pinch, press, squeeze, etc.)? ● How could you make the clay thinner? thicker? round? ● What could you do to attach those pieces together? ● Will you work by yourself, or with a friend? ● Remember when you constructed a _____ using blocks? I wonder how you might construct that using clay?
Standards	<p>SL.K.1. Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about kindergarten topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups.</p> <p>VA.K.1. Use a variety of materials and media, for example, crayons, chalk, paint, clay, various kinds of papers, textiles, and yarns, and understand how to use them to produce different visual effects.</p>

Notes

