



for
Facilitators

Playbook

with

CLAY





This book contains the initial sessions which should be conducted with children. It helps children & teachers to get used to the material. These sessions serve as the building blocks for developing academic modules for children based on the observations. Incorporating play in teaching would be helpful for children to retain things for longer periods of time as well as would help prevent monotony & boredom amongst both the parties.

Clay has been given as a material to make it easy for the children to understand things as well as to indulge in free play. At no point must this material be used for “How to make ...” as it will lose the whole point. It could be taught as a vocational training only to students who enjoy making things from observation.

Material requirements -

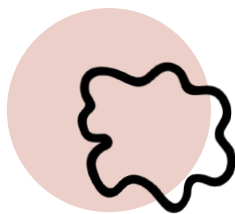
T-shirts/apron for each kid

Canvas cloth

Plastic wrap for the clay

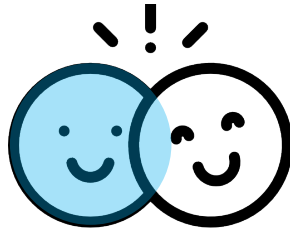
Water to wash hands

How to handle CLAY?



- A single lump of clay can be used over and over if stored properly.
- Clay should be wrapped properly in plastic and then kept in an airtight box.
- Preferably the box should be kept in dark or where it gets the minimum sunlight.
- The box should be closed properly and take the amount which is needed, rest should be wrapped in plastic and kept back in the box.
- Once the child is done working in clay, sprinkle some water on the clay and wrap it in the plastic again.
- Alternatively one can poke holes in dry clay, pour some water, knead it and then after a few minutes remove the towel and wrap the clay back in the plastic.
- When using the clay next time, little wedging can be done so as to soften all the clay else the child can directly use it as no firing is involved.

PLAY TIME



Ingredients : Clay, Canvas cloth
Preparation time : 10 minutes

RECIPE FOR FUN!

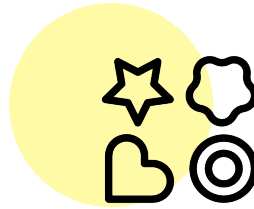
The activity aims to familiarize children with the material, observe their response and involvement in context to the material. The duration of the activity will be around 40 minutes. During this session, the children must not be taught about how to make anything rather they should be left free to explore things on their own



BENEFITS:

1. No child is left behind as the session is not about making things.
2. Increases communication within the group as well as helpful bonding with the teachers.
3. *Parallel play* is when children play near others, doing the same activity, but not yet interacting.
This helps children become more aware of others, model behaviors, express emotions, and develop communication skills.
4. Encourages and supports creativity. Children can express themselves, exhibit how they are interpreting their world.
5. The material has not been taught to the child and hence they come up with more creative ways of playing with it.
6. Children are able to use all their body parts and hence it encourages an overall involvement of body
7. Clay becomes a tool for sensory involvement for the child.
8. Tactile exploration helps develop fine motor and coordination skills and encourages creative, open-ended play.

Cut a COOKIE



Ingredients : Clay, Canvas cloth, Cookie cutters (different shapes & sizes)

Preparation time : 10 minutes

RECIPE FOR FUN!

The teachers should divide the group in 2 such that each child is able to see what the teacher is doing. The teachers should start with hitting clay with their fists so that the clay becomes somewhat flat (this should be done slowly so that the children are able to follow through). Then cookie cutters should be used to cut out the shapes. The shapes can be then mixed with the clay & the process should be repeated over & over. If the children want to make anything else with the shapes then they should be allowed to go with the flow.

BENEFITS:

1. Increases the strength of the body part used.

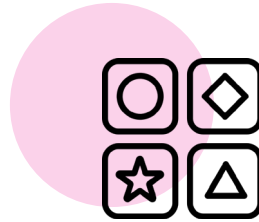


2. Helps in developing fine motor skills.
3. Increases communication within the group as well as helpful bonding with the teachers
4. Clay becomes a tool for sensory involvement for the child
5. Tactile exploration helps develop fine motor and coordination skills and encourages creative, open-ended play.
6. Hones working memory by having children follow directions. This skill is necessary to complete daily activities, like getting dressed or brushing teeth. It helps kids attend to detail, process the task and execute.
7. Helps with the understanding of different shapes and sizes.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

1. Not all children would be able to use their hands to flatten the clay, so the teacher should demonstrate the activity with the body part the child is able to or instead of demonstrating ,they can tell it verbally to the whole group so that the children use their own ways to flatten the lump of clay.
2. Assistance should be provided when required
3. There is no right or wrong, a few children may take time to get the grasp.

Match the PATTERN



Ingredients : Clay, Canvas cloth, Printed pattern sheet
Preparation time : 10 minutes

RECIPE FOR FUN!

This activity also involves dividing the children into groups and then following the directions of teachers. The teachers will assist children in rolling, coiling , pinching & making a ball through clay. Once the children have made all the things, The teachers will set their pieces in a certain pattern & ask the children to identify the pattern. The children will then have to arrange their pieces in the same pattern and the make more pieces to make it a continuous repetitive pattern.

BENEFITS:

1. Increases communication within the group as well as helpful bonding with the teachers.



2. Clay becomes a tool for sensory involvement for the child
3. Kids learn, retain, and recall more information when multiple senses are engaged.
4. Hones working memory by having children follow directions. This skill is necessary to complete daily activities, like getting dressed or brushing teeth. It helps kids attend to detail, process the task and execute.
5. Helps with the understanding of different shapes and sizes
6. Recognizing patterns helps children learn to identify similarities and differences, discover relationships, make predictions, and form generalizations and also helps in the activity of daily living
7. **AB** patterning is a pre-math skill that helps children develop an understanding of order and prediction. Recurring patterns of objects, numbers, letters, or colours, etc. are useful in teaching children to recognize, create and continue patterns.
8. Picking up the pieces and placing them in order strengthens pincer grasp, control and release. This helps develop the muscles in the hands and fingers that are needed for daily living skills, such as tooth brushing and writing with a pencil.
9. Develops visual scanning skills.



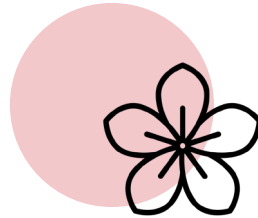
IMPORTANT NOTE:

1. Each child should be given equal attention, the demonstration should be customized to the individual need. For eg., If a child can only use his/her one hand or his/her foot then the teacher should demonstrate it using those.
2. A pattern matching sheet can also be given to the children so that they can keep similar shapes over the shapes printed in the sheet.
3. Later children can make their own patterns & teachers will copy the same. This way both have the opportunity of coming up with newer ideas.



ADD-ONS

Texture iT !



Ingredients : Clay, Sand, Husk, Grog, Pulses (any material which can be mixed with clay to alter its texture & is safe for the child to handle), Canvas cloth

Preparation time : 15 minutes

RECIPE FOR FUN!

Put the texturing material in separate bowls. Ask each child to take a handful of any material they would like to add in their clay. Ask them mix it well in their clay and then play with it in any of the ways they want to. Each child can then be asked to pass on their mix of clay to each other. Later they can combine more of any material to the clay and keep altering the texture.

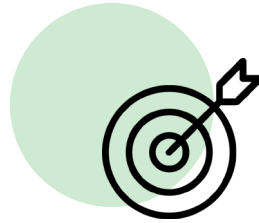
BENEFITS:

1. The child gets to experience different kind of textures which in turn helps them to increase his sensory abilities.



2. Increases cooperative play amongst children and help them to bond with each other in a better way thus helping them develop their social skills.
3. Clay becomes a tool for sensory involvement for the child
4. Once the clay is dry, it still retains the textures which can be used for sensory experiences.
5. The children understand the basic concepts of measurements.
6. Following directions is a fundamental skill needed in everyday life and school. During the activity, be clear and specific with instructions and give children time to process and respond. This activity reinforces the directions because children can watch one another and follow suit
7. Kids learn, retain, and recall more information when multiple senses are engaged.
8. Tactile exploration helps develop fine motor and coordination skills and encourages creative, open-ended play.
9. Increases the opportunity of free play
10. Increases the strength of body parts used.
11. Acts as a sensory table but the child has developed it himself/herself

Clay TOSS



Ingredients : Clay, Canvas cloth, Card board

Preparation time : 15 minutes

RECIPE FOR FUN!

This activity involves throwing a lump of clay at a particular targeted point. Place a square piece of cardboard at a certain distance from children. Colour the center point in a easily visible and bold circular form. The distance of the target should be such that there is some challenge without it becoming a frustration. Have the children one by one throw balls of clay on the cardboard piece, trying to hit the center. With each consecutive play the position of the cardboard can be changed. Also, it is not necessary to have a center point, the whole cardboard piece can be used as the prime target.

BENEFITS:

1. Increases communication within the group as well as helpful



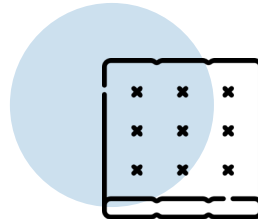
bonding with the teachers.

2. Clay becomes a tool for sensory involvement for the child
3. Strengthens hand and finger grasp and develops the ability to release objects. These are fine motor skills that help kids develop precise movements, like movements needed to cut with scissors or pick up a cup to drink.
4. Develops eye-hand coordination, which is important in linking the brain with movement. This helps with tasks like tying your shoes and prepares kids for success in reading and writing.
5. Tracking a moving object helps develop eye muscles needed for reading and writing and hence strengthens visual tracking skills.
6. Increases core strength which is necessary for stability, posture and movement

IMPORTANT NOTE:

1. If a child has very weak arms then move the target close to him so that there is an act of throwing but at the same time requires very less strength. If a child has arms which he cannot raise then keep the target on the floor.
2. Gradually the teachers should try to encourage the students to use their weaker hand

Bed of CLAY



Ingredients : Clay, Canvas cloth, Twigs, Paper straw

Preparation time : 25 minutes

RECIPE FOR FUN!

The teachers should prepare a clay bed on the canvas. The activity is meant for free play and for observing the actions children get involved into when they get a bigger area to play. A bigger area for playing would mean more use of body parts. Twigs can be given to each child but it would just be an add on and it would completely depend on the child to use it or not.

BENEFITS:

1. Increases core strength which is necessary for stability, posture and movement.
2. Encourages and supports creativity as children can express themselves, exhibit how they are interpreting their world.

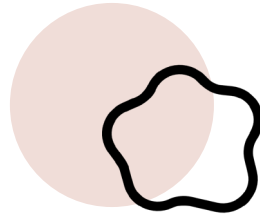


3. The clay bed would be a completely new experience for children as they would have to work in co-operation with each other plus have a more quantity of clay to play around.
4. A larger area of play would bring out more avenues of play.
5. Each child would utilize the surface in their own ways.,some may walk on it while others can pull out a small lump whereas others may use the twigs for texturing, etc.
6. Helps in communication, promotes cooperative playing and hence improves the social skills of children.
7. Acts as a sensory path.
8. Depending upon how the children use it, the benefits would vary.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

A set of t-shirt & pants must be provided by Prabhat foundation for this day. The samew set can be resued every time for this activity.

Shape it UP!



Ingredients : Clay, Different shaped plastic moulds/small containers, Canvas cloth

Preparation time : 15 minutes

RECIPE FOR FUN!

The teachers should coat the insides of dye with powder so that the clay comes out easily later on. They should demonstrate children to fill the insides of the dye with clay and once it is filled, keep it aside for a few minutes before taking it out from the dye. The children should be divided in 2 groups

BENEFITS:

1. Increases communication within the group as well as helpful bonding with the teachers.
2. Strengthens hand and finger grasp.
3. Following directions is a fundamental skill needed in



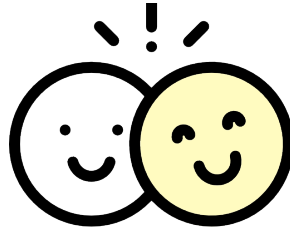
everyday life and school. During the activity, be clear and specific with instructions and give children time to process and respond. This activity reinforces the directions because children can watch one another and follow suit

4. Kids learn, retain, and recall more information when multiple senses are engaged.
5. Tactile exploration helps develop fine motor and coordination skills.
6. Children can start retaining shapes , hones memory. Works on visual memory.
7. Can understand the difference between big & small slowly.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

The teachers should ensure that there are no sharp edges of the mould and containers.

Make your OWN!



Ingredients :Clay, Canvas cloth, grog, pulses, cookie cutters, paper straws, cardboard cutout, pattern match sheet

Preparation time : 15-20 minutes

RECIPE FOR FUN!

The children will be provided with all the materials from the previous session and the teachers would observe the natural interests children show towards the given things. It would be a similar session like the initial one but there would be other options available for children to explore.

BENEFITS:

1. Allows free play and hence more learning
2. Would help in observing the memory retention each child possesses when learning through a play based approach.
3. Children can come up with newer games.



4. Benefits would depend upon the activity child is involved in.
5. It would bring out the interests of individual child and hence would be beneficial for further development of sessions for children.



Once all the sessions are over. The teachers must work out a complete analysis for each student and then develop lesson plans or next 8 sessions accordingly. If there is a necessity to repeat any of the sessions, that could also be done. The same sessions in this book can be tweaked and could be used to teach basic maths , directions, etc. But that should be done once the child has become comfortable with the material. One objective of introducing clay is also,that it will be ever evolving with respect to the modules and needs of the children.

For the initial sessions there has been no changes made in the group, Prabhat has divided its children into but that can be done if a need arises and the teachers are able to group the children in a different format.



ADD-ONS



An Alternative for those with Special Needs



Srishti

Graduation project
Ceramic & Glass Design



राष्ट्रीय डिज़ाइन संस्थान
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DESIGN