

the new children's museum

LESSON PLAN:

Troy's Favorite
Clay Hamburger

OVERVIEW

Inspired by:

The Museum's Clay Studio, open daily to visitors. This project was developed to teach basic clay sculpting skills to students of all ages.

Grades:

All ages

Duration:

30 minutes

HOW-TO

Materials:

- o Clay cut into 1 to 2-inch cubes
- o Damp sponges or paper towels
- o Toothpicks
- o Rolling pins



STEPS

Prep:

1. Roll clay into five gumball-sized balls
2. Flatten each ball using the palm of your hand
3. Use your thumb and index finger to smooth the edges

Make Ingredients:

1. Patty: poke one circle with a toothpick to add texture
2. Cheese: cut edges off one circle to make a square
3. Lettuce: rip the edges of one circle
4. Sesame Seed Bun: use a sponge to wet the top of a circle, then add tiny clay dots to the top
5. Ketchup and Mustard: mix clay and water to make slip

Assembly:

1. Place bottom bun on table.
2. Spread with a little bit of mustard, then add the patty.
3. Put a dollop of ketchup on top, then add the cheese.
4. Add some more mustard, then place your lettuce.
5. Add just a little more ketchup, then squish the sesame seed bun on top of everything.
6. Bake in the sun until dry.

Clay Tips, Tricks and Lingo

Clay is made up of tiny pieces of rock that become soft and malleable when mixed with water.

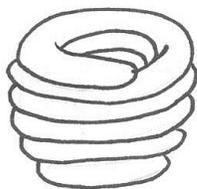
Ceramics are made by sculpting clay, letting it dry, and then baking it at extremely high temperatures – or **firing**.

Keep your clay from drying out before you're ready by covering it with a damp cloth clay dust can help solidify wet clay – and it's fun to make! Put **bone dry** clay into a resealable plastic bag and tap it with a rolling pin until it crumbles.

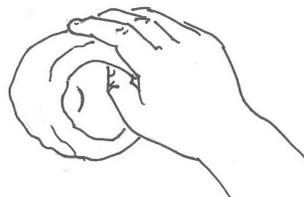
Make **slip**, which is important for sticking two pieces of clay together, by stirring together clay dust and water until your mixture is the texture of pudding. You can also create slip directly on your sculpture by rubbing a damp sponge on the surface until it becomes viscous.

If your clay is cracking, wet your finger and smooth over the outside of your sculpture.

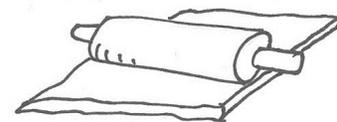
Some sculpting techniques include:



Coil



Pinch



Slab