

## MY IDEAS

*Use this page to draw your ideas or draw what you've made!*

## SHARE YOUR DESIGNS!

*#camcreativepacks and tag us on Instagram at @accessartorguk  
or find us on Facebook and Twitter @accessart*



# CLAY PLAY!

SUMMER  
CLAY PLAY  
WITH  
ACCESSART

A HOW  
TO  
GUIDE

With  
thanks to  
Scolaquip and  
Cambridge  
City Council

OPEN ME!

# WHAT IS CLAY PLAY?

## PLAYING TOGETHER

No matter how old you are, if you are a kid, a teen, an adult, a parent, designated carer, or grandparent we hope that this pack will inspire you to have fun together with Clay Play!

You may already be very familiar with clay, this age-old modelling material, or never have tried it before! Either way, you'll agree it's a brilliant material to play with, and making together, even with a 'social distance', can be a perfect shared experience.

There will be lots to talk about too while your hands are busy making!

## ABOUT SCOLA AIR-HARDENING CLAY:

Unlike regular clay, air-hardening clay does not need to be 'fired' and all you really need to know about the clay, you will learn by shaping it and playing with it.

You can play with textures and shapes or just enjoy the feeling of it in your hands. This clay product will give you hours of fun and you will also be able to make some lasting creations that can be painted and saved.

Sprinkle any unused clay with water and keep it in a well-sealed plastic bag so that it stays fresh.



Air-hardening clay does not need to be fired but it's worth remembering that, unlike fired clay (ceramics) you **won't** be able to use your creations for holding any liquid or eating on!

# HOW DO WE GET STARTED?

## YOU WILL NEED:

- **Air-dry clay**
- **Water (in a plastic tub)**
- **An old plastic place-mat or suitable surface to work on**
- **A sponge**
- **Mark-making tools (like a knife, fork, lolly-pop stick, toothpick etc.)**
- **Old rolling pin (optional)**
- **Paint (-most water-based paint will work on the dried clay surface).**

Many thanks to Scolaquip and Cambridge City Council for this AccessArt Clay Play resource. AccessArt is a registered charity which aims to inspire and enable high-quality visual arts education via the website [www.accessart.org.uk](http://www.accessart.org.uk).





# HOW TO CLAY PLAY!

## Getting started!

Use a piece of wire or tear off fist-sized pieces of clay with your hands. Keep what you are not using in the closed plastic bag so it does not dry out.



## What should I make?

Anything! There really is no wrong or right way of working just trust your instincts and sense of play to explore shaping it!



## How big should I work?

Air-drying clay does not have a huge amount of strength. We would recommend that it's best suited for smaller, fist-sized models. But... if you work too small, you might find it's a bit brittle and might crack, so best to work with a good thickness.

## TOP TIP!

Keep your fingers damp to easily mould the clay.



## TOP TIP!

You can work with your clay over several days by keeping it moist under a damp cloth and plastic bag.



## Using water

Make sure that you have plenty of water to hand. What happens if the clay is wetter or dryer? For example, if the clay is slightly damper it might be easier to make marks and textures into it.



## Mark making and textures

You can use different tools to create different textures; a fork, a lolly-pop stick, the back of a spoon. You can make 'imprints' into the clay by pressing natural materials like twigs and leaves into its surface. See how you can bring your piece to life by incorporating different textures and using different tools while you are making!



## Joining and building

You can join two pieces of clay together. Use a tool, like a knife or a toothpick, to 'score' both the surfaces so they are rough and can grip together. Make sure they are nice and wet. Use your tool to score a bit more and mould the two pieces until they become one.



## Drying your clay

To avoid cracking you might want to dry your pieces under a dampened cloth so that they dry slowly over a few days.

## Painting

You can bring your finished works to life by painting them with most water-based paints including acrylic, poster, and gouache. You might want to paint the surface with PVA glue to create a shine!

### TOP TIP!

Make sure your clay is fully dry before you paint it!

