

Individual Activity Lesson Plan

Date: Tuesday 28th April 2020

Activity Title: Salt Dough Snails

Learning Intention:

To practise fine motor skills and hand – eye coordination.

Links to EYFS: Physical Development:

Manipulate materials to achieve a planned effect.

Uses one handed tools and equipment.

Uses simple tools to effect changes to materials.

Activity Overview:

Create your own salt dough snail independently, using cupboard ingredients.

Resources:

- Flour, water, salt
- Rolling pin, table knife
- Pepper corns
- Paint, paintbrushes
- Toothpicks/ matches
- Shells/ pasta shells

Key vocabulary:

Mix, add, knead, squeeze, cut, texture, soft, hard, smooth, sticky, rough.

ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION (including key questions)

Introduction:

- Listen to the story 'The Snail and the Whale' by Julia Donaldson and ask your child to describe a snail's body parts in detail.
- Explain to your child that they will be creating their own snail, using salt dough prepared by both of you, using cupboard ingredients and kitchen utensils.
- Watch the short tutorial on how to make salt dough, clicking on the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PmgQQWWa0SE>

Main Activity:

Salt dough ingredients:

1 cup of plain flour

½ cup of salt

½ cup of water

- Show your child the resources needed and ask them to identify them independently.
- Discuss the importance of being safe throughout this process especially when using a kitchen knife.
- Read the recipe to your child encourage them to measure out the correct amount of ingredients.
- Allow your child to mix the ingredients independently in a bowl and knead the dough until smooth and silk, adding a bit of flour if it gets to sticky.
- Encourage your child to cut it into smaller pieces using the table knife.
(Model any part of the instructions of the activity for your child if they need help)
- Encourage him/her to roll the salt dough between the palms (to make the shell) and their fingers to practise fine motor skills (to create smaller body parts).
- Challenge your child to create different patterns on the shells using toothpicks.

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- Let your snail air dry (it might take a few days depending on the thickness) or put it in the oven (150 C or gas mark 2) for up to 3 hours.
- When dry, allow your child to decorate their work using a variety of colours.
- Alternatively, you can add some paint to your dough, whilst mixing the ingredients, instead of painting it afterwards.
- You can also use real shells or pasta shells as a variation, but these are for air drying only and are not to be put in the oven.



Key questions:

1. Can you tell me why it is called salt dough?
2. How does your saltdough feel?
3. What do you need to add to make it less sticky?
4. Can you show me how to mix it, roll it?
5. How do we need to hold the knife?

Additional ways to support your child:

Encourage your child to experiment with the salt dough, cutting, rolling squeezing it in order to strengthen their finger flexibility/ dexterity.

Extension:

Challenge your child to create his/her own salt dough small creature, paying attention to detail, e.g. eight-legged spider, symmetrical butterfly, or ladybird.