



Objective: For children to manipulate, create and construct through sculpture

What I need:

Soap Dough:

Lux Flakes (Pure soap flakes available at any supermarket) Small amount of water.

1 cup of Lux Flakes makes about a fist size amount of soap dough. Add small amount of water slowly and mix with hands. Flakes will come together and initially feel a little too wet and gooey, but dough will become more workable as it is kneaded.

Food colouring can be added to the dough (great if children are going to use the soap later) or sculptures can be painted when dry.

(be careful—sculptures can be brittle and beware soap in eyes or children with allergies)

How To:

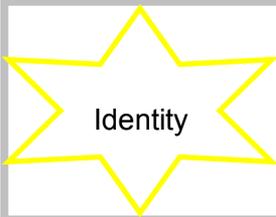
Measure and mix soap sculpting material with children.

Soap dough is best manipulated with fingers into shapes. It does dry out but a little water on the children's finger tips will moisten mixture again. (Remember: easy on the water!)

Natural materials that can be used with soap dough: sticks, rocks, leaves, petals and bark (they make great prints!) Sand and seeds (if you are planning not to reuse the dough), Mini "worlds" and gardens can be created. Use collage materials: pipe cleaners, pop sticks, straws, confetti, coloured macaroni, match sticks. Can be glued on finished pieces

Soap can be moulded inside dough cutters and other shapes.

***Links: Belonging, Being and Becoming: Early Years learning Framework of Australia Outcomes:**



Outcome 1: Children Have a strong sense of identity.

Children:

- develop knowledge and self-confidence through new skill development, manipulating dough and utensils.
- interact with care, empathy and respect working together with shared materials.



Outcome 2: Children are connected with and contribute to their world.

Children:

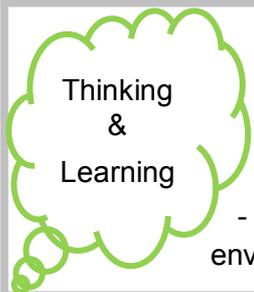
- become aware of fairness through sharing materials and cultural diversity through traditional craft experience.
- understand connection to family and community when creating for others.



Outcome 3: Children have a strong sense of wellbeing.

Children develop:

- social and emotional wellbeing through creating and sense of achievement by working together.
- fine motor skills through manipulation of the dough.



Outcome 4: Children are confident and involved learners.

Children develop:

- creativity, imagination, enthusiasm, confidence and persistence through creating with dough.
- a range of skills/processes: problem solving, experimentation and investigation.
- learning through connecting people, natural and processed materials from their environment.



Outcome 5: Children are effective communicators.

Children:

- interact verbally and non-verbally with others through discussion of creations.
- express ideas and make meaning through manipulating and sculpting with dough and other materials.



Use as a Colour mixing experience. Make dough with no colour, then drop different primary colours into the mix and knead until it makes the secondary colour. (blue + yellow= green, red + yellow= orange, red + blue = purple)

Often children link is type of dough to snow (particularly in warmer areas of Australia) Discuss snow where it falls. Discuss people who throughout history have made homes from snow. Research the Inuit people (some children will say "Eskimos" this is incorrect!) How do there descendants live now?

Think about other materials that could be moulded and shaped then dried.

Look at and research different types of sculpture. Excursion: Art Gallery.

Literacy

Vocabulary: Wide, narrow, long, short, place, on, smooth, layer, look, feel, sticky, hot, cold, squishy, round, roll, pinch, cut, push, knead, mix.

Discuss: Feel of dough when playing and items created.

Rules of working with soap— hands away from face; don't taste or eat dough.

Look/discuss real sculpture.

Read: Art books of sculpture.

Write: Instructions for making the dough.

List other materials the children could sculpt with.

Community & Culture

Sculpture is historically a major part of many cultures. Ancient Egypt, Roman Empire are renowned for the sculpture left behind. Many cultures are identified by sculpture (Italy - Michelangelo's "David" is not far from mind!).

In the Inuit culture (peoples of Northern Canada), soap sculpture/carving is an important traditional art form.

Soap creation has long historical roots and is often given as gifts.

Play



Academics

Technology

Use internet to as a research tool.

Think of technology used in creating different sculptures (kilns, crafting tools and implements, welders etc)

The Arts

Medium— Soap dough.

Techniques— manipulate and sculpt with hands and other objects. Collage in dough. Painting sculpture.

Working with texture, shape and form, sculpting.

Colour mixing— knead different colour dye through mixture (ie use yellow and blue, knead until it makes green)

Numeracy

Problem solving: when sculpting and creating.

Measurement: Cooking concepts: cup. Small amount of water.

Length concepts when manipulating the dough: long, short, fat, thin, high low.

Number: How many cups of lux flakes did we use?

Size and Shape: free form and geometric shapes

Science & Environment

Science of soap: Research how it has been traditionally made and used.

What natural ingredients have gone into soap made traditionally...where in the environment do these ingredients come from.

What natural mediums are used in sculpture.

Why does the sculpture "set". Discuss drying, dehydration and what ways this can happen.

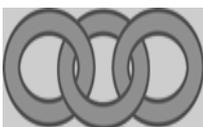
Health & Physical Education

Fine motor skills— manipulation of dough, pinching rolling, sculpting

Hand Eye coordination placement of dough and collage/natural pieces.

Feeling of accomplishment and wellbeing when sculpting and creating.

Dealing with anger when things go wrong.



Experience Links

Nature Walk/Collage
Collage

Play dough Soap Carving
Cooking Capers

Box Construction
Salt Sculpture