

Core skill: To be able to manipulate Play-Doh skilfully

Activity zone



Malleable

'Remember that you moulded me like clay. Will you now turn me to dust again?'

Job 10:9
New International Version



Northaw CE Primary School

Learning sequence

- Experiment with different ways of manipulating the Play-Doh such as rolling, poking and squishing, which builds strength in the muscles in their fingers and hands.
- Learn hand-eye coordination as they use their hands to shape Play-Doh.
- Mix colours to create new ones.
- Begin to refine techniques to express their ideas and feelings.
- Beginning to use symbolic thinking, or pretending the Play-Doh is something else.
- Use new words such as those to describe texture (grainy, smooth, lumpy) and discuss the process.
- Measuring, mixing, experimenting and predicting using the dough, e.g. "What would happen if I added more flour to the dough?"

Adult support

- Ensure Play-Doh activities are always available during Continuous Provision.
- Teach health-and-safety rules when using Play-Doh.
- Model using new vocabulary.
- Provide a range of tools and resources for children to use with the Play-Doh.

Key vocabulary

push
pull
squash
squeeze
roll
chop
cut
mix
combine
smooth

lumpy
grainy

Related core skills

- Knows how to select and use different tools to make marks and help manipulate the Play-Doh

Curriculum ambition(s)

- Use Play-Doh to plan and make a model of something in which you are interested