

First Grade

Pocket Plaque

Materials needed:

- Box of clay labeled with teacher's name
- Water Spray Bottle
- 5 Drying boards – (labeled with teacher's name and date)
- Sample projects (carried in padded box)
- 2 Clay Scrap Bags
- Mats
- Newspaper
- Plastic pipe roller (1 per student)
- Wooden slats (2 each)
- Water bowls and bottle of water
- Cutting tools in white plastic box (for writing names & cutting outline)
- Straws (for making holes to hang plaque by)
- Wheat seed heads and other decorating tools

Procedure:

1. Roll out clay until roller rests on slats.
2. Loosen clay from mat.
3. Lightly trace out the shape desired. The bottom should be rectangular.
4. Use the sharp cutting tool to cut out the shape traced onto the slab. The wooden slats can be used to trace and cut along a straight line. Collect the scrap clay.
5. Write child's first name, last initial and date on the back of the project.
6. Score and moisten the sides for about 6 or 7 inches from the bottom. Wad up 1/8 sheet of newspaper or less, and put it in the middle of the bottom portion and fold the bottom up over the paper, joining the scored edges together. Leave the paper in place to hold the pocket open during drying. Pinch and seal the edges to form the pocket.
7. Decorate. Use metal tools to create designs or symbols on the front of the plaque. Press wheat seeds into the clay for an attractive impression.
8. Use straws to poke two holes near the top. A cord can be threaded through the holes to hang the pocket plaque.
9. Place projects on drying board and return to Clay Room.
10. Clean up everything that was used and put everything back where it came from. Count tools in white plastic box.

