

First Grade

Picture Frame

Materials needed:

- Box of clay labeled with teacher's name (2 pounds per project)
- Spray bottle of water and sponges
- 7 Drying boards – (labeled with teacher's name and date)
- Sample projects (carried in padded box)
- 3 Clay Scrap Bags
- Picture Frame templates (in clear plastic folders)
- Mats (1 per student)
- Plastic pipe roller (1 per student)
- Wooden slats (2 per student)
- Water bowls (fill with 1-2 inches of water in classroom)
- White plastic toolbox of cutting tools (for writing names & cutting out frame)
- Straws (for making holes to hang frame by)
- Plastic jar of wooden and plastic blocks

Procedure:

1. Pre-flatten clay into a square shape. Start rolling out the clay. Periodically lay the template on the clay to test the shape of the slab. Reposition the slats on the diagonal to fill out the corners of the slab. The blocks of clay provided really are plenty big. Just roll the clay in the right directions and so that the roller is completely firm against the slats. Remember, roll from the middle out.
2. Loosen clay from mat.
3. Place picture frame template on slab and use roller to gently press into the clay.
4. Use sharp cutting tool to cut out picture frame, both inside and outside. Remove template and collect scrap clay.
5. Use straw to punch two holes 1/2 inch from top edge of frame.
6. Write child's first name, last initial and date on the back of the project.
7. Decorate. Use blocks to press shapes into picture frame. Letter stamps can be used to print out a little word or phrase (e.g. I Love You). Use fingertips to press a scalloped edge around the outside of the frame.
8. Place projects on drying board, pressing down gently so they lay completely flat.
9. Clean up everything that was used and put everything back where it came from. Count tools in white plastic box.

