

5th Grade

Make your own Monster

Materials needed:

- Box of clay labeled with teacher's name (1 pound per project)
- Spray bottle of water and sponges
- 3-4 drying boards – (labeled with teacher's name and date)
- Sample projects (carried in padded box)
- 2 Clay Scrap Bags
- Mats (1 per student)
- Water bowls (filled with 1-2 inches of water in classroom)
- White plastic toolbox of cutting tools (for writing names, making lines)
- Straws (for making circular patterns)
- Plastic forks (for making parallel lines)
- Plastic knives
- Any tools you might want to use for decoration

Procedure:

1. Separate clay into 2 equal pieces, half for the body with the remainder for all other parts (spikes, arms/legs, eyes, tail).
2. Make the body clay piece into a ball, then pinch out the body, similar to the pinch pot you made in kindergarten.
3. Pinch pot reminder: Use thumbs to press down into the top middle of the clay ball. Slowly and gently squeeze the sides of the pot between thumbs and fingers, turning the pot frequently. For taller pots, pull the sides upwards while squeezing. For wider pots, pull sides outwards while squeezing. Continue until sides and bottom are between 1/4" and 1/2" thick.
4. Write your first name, last initial and date on the bottom of the project.
5. Make and attach body parts by scoring and attaching with a small amount of water (dip a finger in water and wet the 2 scored pieces before pressing together).
6. Decorate. Use straws, forks, blocks, and round tipped tools to make lines and patterns on the pot.
7. Place projects on drying board and return to Clay Room.
8. Clean up everything that was used and put everything back where it came from. Count tools in white plastic box.

Tips:

- Remember that clay pieces must be hollow and no thicker than your thumb to avoid exploding in the kiln.
- Keep add-ons close to the body so that they do not break off. Long, thin tails should be nestled up to the body.
- Attach all small parts like eyes, teeth, spikes as well as you can. Just pushing them on does not ensure they will stay together as clay shrinks as it dries.
- Keep your project size no larger than 6"x 6" square to keep the monsters compact.

Press thumbs into center of ball.

