

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

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 goeey, 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). **Beware of soap in eyes, soap may cause reaction, though unlikely as it is pure soap.**

Early Years Learning Framework Outcomes*

Outcome 1: 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 -

- become aware of fairness through sharing materials and cultural diversity through traditional craft experience.

Outcome 3: 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 develop-

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

Outcome 5: 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.

Extension/ Ideas.

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)
Research the Inuit people (some children will say "Eskimos" this is incorrect!)

Instructions

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 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 as well)

Key Learning Area Links

Pre-Numeracy (Mathematics)

Problem solving: when sculpting and creating.

Measurement: Cooking concepts: cup. Length concepts when manipulating the dough: long, short, fat, thin, high low. Small amount of water.

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

Literacy/Vocabulary (English)

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.

Health and Physical Education

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

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

Studies of Society and Environment

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

The Arts

Medium— Soap dough. Techniques- manipulate and sculpt with hands and other objects. Collage in dough. Paint. Working with texture, shape and form, sculpting. Colour mixing- knead colours into dough.

Global Kids Oz Linked Resources

Far North Tales—Stories from the Arctic.
We are Sailing Down the Nile.