

Making our own tea set



This week, we decided to make our own tea set out of clay. We wanted to make cups to drink our tea and hot chocolate. For this, we needed a big block of clay and some space on the table!

If you don't have any clay, you can use playdough or salt dough.

If you use salt dough, you could bake it in the oven to harden it.

(250g plain flour, 125g salt, 125ml warm water)

Oven: pre-heat to lowest setting and bake for about 3 hours or until hard

Microwave: pop in the microwave for 10 second intervals for about 3 mins



Separate your clay into smaller pieces, depending on how much you have.

We separated ours into about 8 pieces but had some spare left over.

Roll your clay into a ball – it will take a bit of effort, especially if your clay is cold!



Once you have a ball of clay, push your thumb into the middle of the ball to make a hole.

Make sure you don't push your thumb the whole way through!

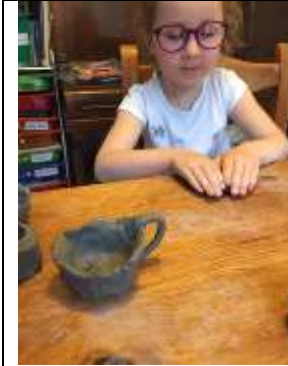


Use your thumb to push the hole to make it bigger – make sure the walls of your cup stay upright.





You may wish to change the shape of the top of your cup so that it bends outwards. Be creative!



Next, take a small piece of clay and roll it to make a long sausage shape.

Be careful not to roll it too long in case it breaks.

Carefully attach your long piece of clay to the top and bottom to create a handle. Make sure you blend the two pieces of clay together so that it doesn't fall off.



Congratulations! You have made your first cup. Make some more if you like.

You could also make them taller so you have a jug, or smaller to make a little sugar pot.

They may take a few days to a week to dry properly. You can dry them out in the oven but they are more likely to crack this way. We are going to paint them once they're dry!



Once your clay is dry, you can paint them.

Add PVA glue to your paints so that when they dry they're shiny.

Choose whichever colours you like. We wanted pink too so we mixed red and white together in a separate pot.



Once you have your paints, start decorating!
Remember to be gentle with them as they may be fragile.



Taa-daa!
Once your paint has dried, you can use your new tea set to play!