

# Learning Through Play with Play Dough



## Loose Parts

You can add loose parts to your play dough to enhance creativity and learning, including:

pipe cleaners, googly eyes, toothpicks, straws, rocks and gems, coloured rice, feathers, string, ribbon, lace, buttons, pasta, Popsicle sticks, pompoms, foam shapes and letters, and beads.

With these loose parts, try making

- ☐ A bowl of soup
- ☐ A Robot
- ☐ Some Bugs
- ☐ Planets, stars, and a moon
- ☐ Ice cream treats
- ☐ Pizza
- ☐ Cars
- ☐ Cookies
- ☐ Finger Puppets

## Simple Play Dough Recipe

- 4 cups of flour
- 1 cup of salt
- 4 cups of water
- 4 tablespoons of oil
- 1/2 cup of cream of tartar

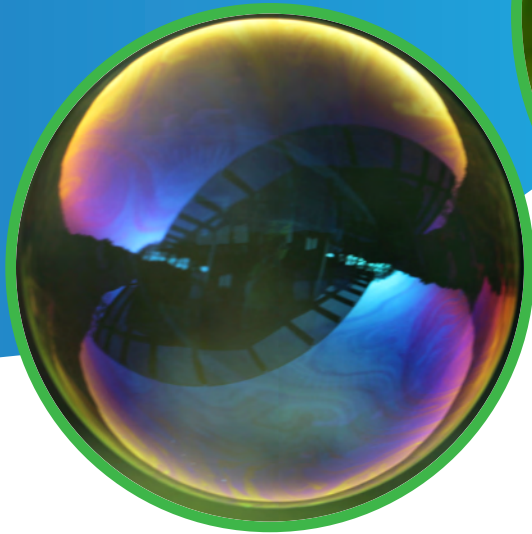
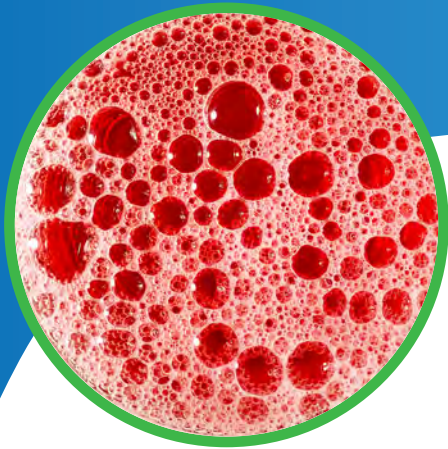


Mix all ingredients in a sauce pan. Cook and stir over low/medium heat until dough is completely formed and no longer sticky. Allow to cool slightly before storing in an air tight container or zip top bag.

### Playdough Power Words

- |           |           |           |          |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| • Squeeze | • Pat     | • Squishy | • Smelly |
| • Roll    | • Twist   | • Smooth  | • Round  |
| • Pound   | • Flatten | • Sticky  |          |
| • Cut     | • Soft    | • Between |          |

# Learning Through Play with **Smelly Bubbles**



## Simple Bubbles Recipe

- Take one can of soda pop and open. Set it aside to allow bubbles to disappear. When flattened, pour gently into a larger bowl.
- Slowly add 1/4 cup light corn syrup to soda while stirring gently.
- Slowly add 1/2 cup 'gentle' dish soap and stir gently.
- Test your smelly bubble mixture with a bubble wand, and then pour it into a container.

## Bubble Fun

Try doing some of these activities with your new smelly bubbles

- ☐ Clap a bubble
- ☐ Pinch a bubble
- ☐ Poke a bubble
- ☐ Kick a bubble
- ☐ Stomp a bubble
- ☐ Catch a bubble on your tongue
- ☐ Make a really big bubble
- ☐ Make a really long bubble
- ☐ Make different kinds of bubble wands

### Bubbly Power Words

- Bubble
- Wand
- Bottle
- Straw

- Pop
- Eat
- Catch
- Blow

- Open
- Up
- Lots
- Big

- Tiny
- Wet
- Slippery

# Learning Through Play with

# Books



## Recommended Authors

- Dr. Seuss
- Robert Munsch
- Sandra Boynton
- Jan Brett
- Leslie Petricelli
- Eric Carle

**Great books without words  
for early readers**

The Line by Paula Bossio  
Good Dog, Carl by Alexandra Day  
Moonlight by Jan Ormerod

## Have Fun With Words

Have your little ones try out some fun noise words (onomatopoeias) while reading, like

**BOOM, CRASH, SPLASH,  
and BONK!**

You can also try

- ☐ Guessing what happens next
- ☐ Adding voices for each character
- ☐ Taking turns turning the page
- ☐ Playing "I Spy" with the pictures
- ☐ Using whispers and loudness to create excitement
- ☐ Adding emotions and feelings like being happy, sad, or silly.
- ☐ Making up a brand new story

### Books Power Words

- |           |          |          |             |
|-----------|----------|----------|-------------|
| • Book    | • Story  | • Look   | • Beginning |
| • Cover   | • Sounds | • Open   | • End       |
| • Words   | • Turn   | • Hold   | • Next      |
| • Picture | • Read   | • Listen | • Silly     |

# Learning Through Play with

# Doodling



## Why Doodle?

Doodling is a form of artistic expression that is unique and individualized, creates ideas and inspiration, is calming and stress free, and supports memory. It develops hand and finger coordination and is a precursor to writing.

It supports healthy brain development, can be used to communicate with others, and helps to develop non-verbal understanding.

## Doodle Away

Doodling isn't just scribbling a pencil on paper. You can doodle with almost anything! Try doodling with some of these

- ☐ Shaving Cream
- ☐ Pudding
- ☐ Sand
- ☐ Mud
- ☐ Windows
- ☐ Snow
- ☐ Fingers
- ☐ A Feather
- ☐ A Straw
- ☐ A Pen
- ☐ A Paintbrush
- ☐ Chalk
- ☐ A Pipe Cleaner

### Doodling Power Words

- Doodling
- Curly-cues
- Scribble
- Line
- Around
- Dark
- Light
- Colours
- Art



# Learning Through Play with

# Boxes



## Thinking Outside the Box

When playing with boxes, make sure to talk about what you are doing! Little people need to hear a word many times before they try to say it and absorb its meaning.

## Loose Parts

Loose Parts encourage creativity, imagination, language and thinking for everyone! You can also play a game of I Spy or 20 Questions with Loose Parts. You may want to play pirate and search for Loose Parts buried in a tub of rice or tell a story or play memory.

Using loose parts, can you transform a box into...

- ☐ A robot
- ☐ A race car
- ☐ A house
- ☐ A boat
- ☐ A sky scraper
- ☐ An alien space ship
- ☐ A rocket
- ☐ A fort
- ☐ A train

### Boxes Power Words

- Cardboard
- Top
- Pack
- Hard

- Rectangle
- Inside
- Sides
- Bend

- Cut
- Outside
- Carton
- Flip

- Stack
- Fold
- Flaps
- Square