

Working With Clay

Most Young children when given a piece of clay will instinctively explore it using their senses. They may poke it , squeeze it, pull it, or pound it up and down. Each time they act upon the clay, the clay reacts and responds. This may mean little to us but it is fascinating to young children.



If a child notices the changes they are learning their actions have consequences and this is empowering. As they experiment their developing brains are also changing taking shape along with the clay. With an interest stimulated such a self initiated activity is the perfect match for the developmental needs of a young child.

Playing with clay stimulates curiosity, imagination and creativity. Many new neurons and synapses are being generated as a child engages in such a tactile and responsive visual activity.

Working with clay and one handed tools develops large and small muscles and fosters hand eye co-ordination. Given the freedom Children will use clay for emotional expression. Children will work for long periods without adult intervention which can improve their attention and concentration.

