

## RECIPES FOR PLAY MATERIALS AND CLEAN-UPS

### PLAYDOUGHS

Store playdoughs in plastic containers or bags tightly closed. Generally, these playdoughs do not harden well.

#### Playdough

- 1 cup flour
- 1/2 cup salt
- 1 tbsp vegetable oil
- 2 tsp cream of tartar  
or 2 tbsp powdered alum
- 1 cup water
- 1/2 tsp food coloring

Mix water and food coloring. Stir in remaining ingredients. Cook on stove over medium heat until mixture forms a ball. Do not boil. Knead a few times and allow to cool. (Note: Food coloring could be added when you knead the dough.)

#### Cloud Dough

- 3 cups flour
- 2 tbsp powdered tempera paint
- 1/2 cup salad oil  
water

Mix flour, tempera, and oil. Add water to make a soft, pliable dough.

#### Soap Dough

- 2 cups flour
- 1/2 cup salt
- 2 tbsp liquid paint
- 2 tbsp liquid soap  
water

Mix first four ingredients, adding enough water to make pliable dough.

#### Sand Dough

- 1 cup cornstarch
- 2 cups sand
- 1-1/2 cups water

Cook and stir all ingredients about five minutes until mixture gets bubbly and thickens. Cover and let cool. Knead in crusty edges.

#### Cornmeal Dough

- 1-1/2 cups flour
- 1-1/2 cups cornmeal
- 1 cup salt
- 1 cup water

Mix first three ingredients. Add enough water to make mixture cling.

#### Oatmeal Dough

- 1 cup flour
- 2 cups dry oatmeal
- 1 cup water

Mix flour and oatmeal together. Gradually add water. Knead mixture until mixed.

#### Glue Dough

- 1 cup flour
- 1 cup cornstarch
- 1/2 cup white glue  
water

Mix flour, cornstarch and glue. Add water as needed. Knead.

### Coffee Ground Dough

2 cups used dry coffee grounds  
1/2 cup salt  
1-1/2 cups cornmeal  
3/4 cup flour (optional)  
water

Mix grounds, salt and cornmeal (and flour). Add water to moisten.

### Modeling Dough

1 cup cornstarch  
2 cups baking soda  
1-1/4 cup water

Mix in pan and cook to dough-like consistency. Turn out, cool briefly, and knead smooth.

### Peanut Butter Playdough

2 cups dry milk powder  
2 cups smooth peanut butter  
1 cup honey  
1 cup oatmeal (optional)

Mix equal parts of peanut butter and dry milk. Add the honey and oatmeal, if desired. Knead and mix until a dough-like consistency. Keeps well in covered container in refrigerator. Edible.

### Edible Dough

Sprinkle 1 package dry yeast into 1-1/2 cups of very warm water. Stir until the yeast is dissolved. Now mix in: 1 egg, 1/4 cup honey, 1/4 cup shortening, and 1 tsp salt. Next stir in flour, a little at a time, until you have a ball of dough that's not too sticky to handle (about 5 cups of flour). Knead the dough for 5 minutes on waxed paper.

On a cookie sheet, shape the dough into flat figures. Cover the sculptures with a towel and let rise in a warm place for 25 minutes. Bake about 20 minutes or until golden brown in a 350° oven. It can be eaten right away, or saved by shellacing it when it cools.

## OTHER GUSHY

### Ooey-Gooey or Silly Putty

2 parts Elmers glue  
1 part Sta-Flo liquid starch  
food coloring

(DO NOT use any substitutions on the brands. These have proven to be the most consistent.) Pour the glue into a bowl first, and then, stirring with your fingers, pour in the starch a little at a time. Add food coloring. Store in a plastic margarine tub or zip-lock bag. Let sit. To clean out of clothes, soak in warm water or try a mixture of one part vinegar to one part water. Can use to copy print from newspaper or comics.

### Goop

1 box cornstarch  
1 cup water

Mix together in a large bowl. Add food coloring, oatmeal, glitter, dry coffee grounds, sand, dry jello, dry pudding, or anything else. Explore with hands, spoon, utensils, etc.

### Pudding Painting

Mix instant pudding. Use it as you would finger paint on shelf paper or freezer paper.

## CLAYS

Clays do not last as long as playdoughs. These products harden and can be painted.

### Salt and Cornstarch Dough/Clay

- 1 cup salt
- 3/4 cup cold water
- 1/2 cup cornstarch

Mix in the top of a double boiler and place the whole boiler over the heat. Stir constantly. When it thickens to bread-dough consistency, dump the dough onto wax or foil paper. Let cool. Knead.

### Sawdust Clay

- 1 cup sawdust
- 1/2 cup wallpaper paste
- water

Add just enough water to sawdust and paste to make a clay-like mixture. Shape into design. This makes a finished product that can be sanded and smoothed when dry. It must be allowed to dry thoroughly in a ventilated area to prevent mold. You may paint the finished product with acrylic paint. If you choose to use tempera paint, add a coat of varnish. This dries to almost concrete hardness. It is especially good for making puppet heads.

### Soap Clay

- 2 cups soap flakes or powder or detergent
- 1/2 cup water

Put the two ingredients in a large mixing bowl and beat with a rotary beater until the mixture begins to stiffen. Add more soap until the mixture feels like dough. If necessary, add more soap stirring with a spoon. Have the children dip their hands in cold water before working with this clay to keep it from sticking to their hands.

### Craft Clay

- 1 cup cornstarch
- 2 cups baking soda
- 1-1/4 cups water

Cook mixture until thickened to dough-like consistency. Turn mixture onto board and knead. May be painted when dry.

### Colored Textures

- cornmeal, white sand, grits, or rice
- dry powdered paint
- white glue

Put the cornmeal, white sand, grits, or rice in a quart jar with the paint. Shake it until everything is mixed. Let children create designs on construction paper with white glue. Sprinkle on the colored texture and shake off excess. Let dry.

### Papier Mâché

- newspaper
- wall paper paste (or flour paste)
- water

Tear 4-5 double sheets of newspaper into small pieces. Soak overnight in hot water. Mix well and knead. Add flour paste and mix well. Mold over objects or chicken wire. Allow to dry. Then paint.

## PAINTS

### Paint Extenders

These recipes make your powdered paint go further AND make clean-up easier.

#1 Mix 1 part powdered paint, 2 parts soap or detergent powder, and 2 parts water. Shake well. Thin with water as desired.

#2 Mix in blender: 1 pound can powdered paint, 1/4 cup liquid starch, 1/2 cup water, and 1 large tbsp. soap powder.

## PAINTS Continued

### Whipped Ivory Flakes

- 2 cups water
- 4 cups Ivory Flakes

Whip ingredients together to whipped cream consistency. For color, add food coloring or tempera paint.

### Shaving Soap Finger Paint

- shaving cream
- food coloring or powdered paint

Using a table top or piece of paper, squirt a generous amount of shaving cream and sprinkle the coloring. Let the child paint.

### Finger Paint

- #1 liquid laundry starch  
food coloring or powdered paint
- #2 1 part paste  
1 part liquid detergent  
food coloring or powdered paint
- #3 1 cup flour  
1-1/2 cups salt  
3/4 cup water  
Stir ingredients together. Add coloring if desired. Has a grainy texture.
- #4 1/2 cup cornstarch  
4 cups hot water  
Dissolve cornstarch in water and stir. Bring to a boil over medium heat, stirring constantly. This thickens as it cools.
- #5 1 cup dry laundry starch  
1/4 cup cold water  
3 cups boiling water  
1 cup soap flakes  
Mix starch with cold water to make a paste. Add boiling water slowly, stirring constantly. Cook until glossy. Stir in soap flakes while mixture is still warm.

- #6 1 cup dry laundry starch  
2 cups cold water  
2 small envelopes of unflavored gelatin  
4 cups hot water  
1 cup soap flakes  
Combine starch and 1-1/2 cups cold water in saucepan. Soak gelatin in 1/2 cup cold water separately. Add hot water to starch mixture slowly while stirring. Cook over medium heat stirring constantly until mixture comes to a boil and is clear. Remove from heat. Blend in softened gelatin mixture. Add soap flakes and stir until mixture thickens and soap is dissolved.

- #7 2 cups flour  
2 tbsp salt  
2-1/4 cups cold water  
2 cups hot water  
Mix flour and salt; gradually add cold water. Beat with a mixer until smooth. Add hot water. Boil until clear. Beat again until smooth. Cool. Add coloring if desired.

- #8 1/2 cup cornstarch  
1/2 cup cold water; divided  
2 cups hot water  
1 envelop flavored gelatin  
1/2 cup dishwashing liquid  
2 packages powdered drink mix (for color)  
In saucepan, blend cornstarch and 1/4 cup cold water. Add the hot water and heat until boiling, stirring constantly. Remove from heat. Mix gelatin powder with the remaining 1/4 cup cold water. Add the liquid soap and stir. Add the gelatin-soap mixture to cornstarch mixture and stir. Stir in powdered drink mix. Store in covered jar in refrigerator for 12 hours before using.

## PASTE

- #1 1/2 cup flour  
1 cup boiling water  
Add flour to the boiling water and stir over low heat until thick and shiny. Let cool. Can be kept in a covered container to use again.
- #2 1 cup flour  
1 cup sugar  
3 tbsp of alum  
2 cups cold water  
2 cups hot water  
Mix flour, sugar and alum with the cold water. Then add the hot water. Cook in a double boiler for 1/2 hour.
- #3 3/4 cup rice flour  
3/4 cup cold water  
2 tbsp sugar  
2-1/2 cup boiling water  
Mix flour, cold water and sugar in pan until smooth. Add boiling water and bring to a boil over low heat stirring constantly until thick. Remove from heat and add 1/2 tsp oil of wintergreen (optional). Keeps several months in tightly sealed jar.
- #4 Stamp Glue  
1 packet unflavored gelatin  
4 tbsp. water  
1/2 tsp white corn syrup, or lemon or peppermint extract  
2 drops boric acid  
Sprinkle gelatin into 1 tbsp cold water until softened. Pour in 3 tbsp boiling water and stir until dissolved. Add corn syrup, lemon or peppermint extract and boric acid solution. Mix well. Store tightly covered. Brush thinly onto the back of a picture. When dry, lick and stick. This will gel when stored; warm it in a pan of hot water to liquify.

## MISCELLANEOUS RECIPES

### Drop Dough

Mix equal amounts of salt, flour and water (about 1 cup each). Add bright tempera color. Drop dots by spoon on paper plates or cardboard. When it dries, salt crystals will sparkle.

### Paper Transparencies

wax paper

pictures, tissue paper, ribbon/yarn, etc.

Have children arrange a picture or a design on a sheet of wax paper using the materials they've collected. Place a second sheet of wax paper over the design. Sandwich this between sheets of newspaper, and iron it with a medium hot iron.

### Sidewalk Chalk

6 eggshells

1 tsp flour

1 tsp very hot tap water

Wash and dry eggshells. Grind them outside on clean, smooth concrete with a smooth rock. Grind until you have a powder. Sweep up and put into a dish. Throw out any large pieces of shell. Measure flour and water into another dish. Add 1 tsp of the eggshell powder. Mix and mash until it sticks together. Shape and press firmly into a chalk stick shape. Roll stick tightly in paper towel. Dry for 3 days until rock hard.

### Pasta and Rice Dye

small bottle food coloring

2 tbsp rubbing alcohol

Add food coloring to small amount of rubbing alcohol in glass jar or baggie. Immerse pasta or rice in solution. Shake to coat all pieces, but do not get them soaking wet. Remove pasta or rice and dry on paper towels or newspaper.

### Soap Crayons

Ivory Flakes  
food coloring  
water

Pour water into a one cup measuring cup to the 1/8 mark. Fill the rest of the cup with Ivory Flakes. With spoon, mix water and soap flakes together. Mix until you have a thick soapy paste without any big lumps. Add about 30-40 drops of food coloring to the soap mixture, stir well until all the white is gone. Press the soap paste into a plastic ice tray. Let set in a warm, dry place for one or two days until it is hard. Pop the crayons out of the tray and use.

### Imitation Rice Paper

white glue  
water  
tissue paper

pictures, small flowers, cut-outs, etc.

Lay out pictures, flowers, etc. on smooth surface. Mix one part water with one part white glue. Lay a single layer of tissue paper over the design and paint with the mixture. Let dry.