

*The Best Cooked Play Dough

Ingredients: 1 cup flour, 1/2 cup salt, 2 teaspoons cream of tartar, 1 cup water, 1 tablespoon oil, food coloring. Hint; *For group settings double the recipe.*

Combine flour, salt, and cream of tartar in a saucepan. Mix liquids and gradually stir them into dry ingredients. When mixture is smooth, cook over medium heat, stirring constantly until a ball forms. Remove from heat and knead until smooth. Can use unsweetened Kool-Aid instead of food coloring. The Kool-Aid will color it and make it smell great. Purple and orange are fantastic.

This is very pliable and long-lasting play dough, with a more elastic consistency than uncooked play dough.

Note: This is something a little extra for play dough to encourage/develop sensory awareness. Once you have made play dough, whilst kneading it to a smooth/soft finish, drop in a few drops of essential oil. (e.g. / lavender oil added to purple play dough). Another fun option is add glitter to the play dough. Sprinkle a little at a time whilst kneading it 'till you reach the desired affect. This looks particularly good with black play dough.

*Goop

Ingredients: 2 cups salt, 2/3 cup water, 1 cup cornstarch 1/2 cup cold water.

Mix 2 cups salt and 2/3 cup water, heat for 3-4 minutes. Remove from heat and quickly add mixture of: 1 cup cornstarch and 1/2 cup cold water. Stir quickly. Return to heat briefly if too "goopy".

*Macaroni Coloring

Ingredients: Macaroni, food coloring, small Ziploc baggies

An easy, fun non-messy method of coloring macaroni. In a small baggie add 2 handfuls of macaroni and food coloring. Seal the baggie and have a child shake the baggie until the macaroni is colored. Lay out on paper towels to dry. Can play lively music during the baggie shaking part.

*Peanut Butter Play dough

Ingredients: 1 cup peanut butter, 1 cup honey, 1 cup powdered milk, 1 cup oatmeal.

Make something beautiful and the eat it!

Rainbow Stew

(non-messy finger-paint)

Ingredients: 1/3 cup sugar, 1 cup cornstarch, 4 cups water, Ziploc bags, food coloring.

Mix together the sugar, cornstarch, and water. Heat, stirring often until thick. Let cool then divide and put in Ziploc bag. Seal the baggie and have fun!

*Puffy Paint

Needed: Shaving Cream (amount depends on the size of the group)

Food Coloring or paint (Amount depends on the various colors wanted)

Bowls, Paintbrushes, Sponges or anything children can use to paint, A pair of hands,

Glue

Mix an equal amount of shaving cream and glue. Add a few drops of food coloring or paint to the mixture. (Drops depend on shade of color) Mix together. Let the fun begin.

Contributed By: Danielle N. Battle

*Soap Crayons

Ingredients: Ivory soap flakes, food coloring, water, ice cube trays (plastic works best)

Pour 1/8 cup of water into a measuring cup. Fill to the one cup mark with soap flakes.

Mix until you have a thick paste. Add several drops of food color (don't have to use much). Press spoonfuls of soap into the ice cube tray. You can repeat this with several different colors. Let dry for a few days (over the weekend works well).

*Silly Putty(Slime)

Ingredients: Elmer's glue and liquid starch.

Mix equal parts of Elmer's glue and liquid starch and knead. Don't give up-you may have to add more glue and knead some more. If it is sticky add more liquid starch. If it is stringy add more Elmer's glue. Can add food coloring and store in an air-tight container.

Can leave it white and let the children use markers on it.

Note: This may stick to clothes and hair. Children need to wear paint shirts. If any of the silly putty sticks to a child's clothes or hair use white vinegar to remove it. The white vinegar dissolves the silly putty.

*Sun Clay

Ingredients: 2 cups salt, 1 cup cornstarch, and water.

Mix the salt and 2/3 cup water in a saucepan. Cook over medium heat for 4 to 5 minutes, stirring until the salt is dissolved. Remove from heat. In a separate bowl, slowly add 1/2 cup water to the cornstarch. Stir until smooth, and then add to the salt mixture. Return to low heat and cook until smooth, stirring frequently. Store in a sealed plastic bag.

Place the clay on a tray or paper plate and have children work outdoors or in a sunny area indoors. Give children a lump of clay to model. Children may decorate their sun sculptures with small stones, leaves etc...

Place the finished items in the sun to dry. Challenge children to predict how long it will take for the sculptures to dry. When this clay hardens in the sun, it won't crumble.

*Squeeze Bottle Glitter

Ingredients: 1 part flour, 1 part salt, 1 part water, food coloring.

Mix equal parts of flour, salt, and water. Pour into plastic squeeze bottles, such as those used for mustard and ketchup. Add food coloring for variety. Squeeze onto heavy construction paper or cardboard. The salt gives the designs a glistening quality when dry.

May want to remind children to make a design and not huge lakes of squeeze glitter.

Lakes of squeeze glitter take forever to dry.

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