

# Clay Creatures

Early Childhood

## Learning Intention

- Basic art and design elements: line, shape, colour, texture, form and spatial awareness.
- Explore concept of environments
- Think about creatures and habitats

## Development & Links to Curriculum

- Fine motor skills –hand modeling
- Imagination & creativity
- Geography/ Environment

Using modelling clay, Educators will be shown some simple techniques using hand-modelling and ceramic tools, and embellishments for the children to create their own individual creatures (dioramas) for a class display. Educators will use non-toxic modelling clay which comes in a range of colours, air-dries and is soft and easy to use. This activity encourages children to use fine motor skills through a sensory experience, gain knowledge of ceramic-like techniques, and think deeply about creature characteristics. As an extension activity, the class then can focus on creating their own environment for the creatures to 'live', for example; a farm, forest, ocean.



## Materials

- Coloured Magiclay
- Monte Marte mini modelling tools
- PVA glue
- A4 Drawing paper
- 2B pencils for sketching
- Sea shells
- Texture plates, stamps or rollers
- Assorted coloured feathers
- Assorted coloured pompoms
- Coloured craft fun foam sheets
- Small assortment of coloured jewels
- Assorted coloured match sticks
- Small selection of assorted ribbons/yarns

To purchase go to  
[www.schoolartsupplies.com.au](http://www.schoolartsupplies.com.au)

## Instructions

1. Decide on an environment for the class project, and provide stimulation in the form of images, stories, books and even film (e.g. 'Finding Nemo')
2. Give each student the task of making one (or more) creature/s to become part of the environment. Allow them time to consider what they will make and perhaps draw it prior to making.
3. Demonstrate the making task, particularly inclusion of extra materials they may be adding e.g. feathers (note, it is best to add a drop of PVA glue to inclusions to allow for better stability after drying).
4. Give each student a small amount of appropriate coloured clay and let them create! Show them how to form a ball or coil and attach pieces
5. Extension: Create an environment for the creatures made from a cardboard box

