

Paths of Progress

Replacement Instructions for Clay Activities

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Instructions

Originally, *Trail Guide to Learning: Paths of Progress* referenced a book on clay making that is now out of print. We have replaced that book with a wonderful title, *Modeling Clay Animals* by Bernadette Cuxart, ISBN # 978-0-7641-4579-7, published by Barron's.

When you come to a section in *Paths of Progress* that references a clay activity, simply substitute the appropriate lesson in this document. Your student will receive an excellent introduction to the use of modeling clay with these hands-on art projects.

You may choose to gather some general supplies before beginning this book:

- modeling clay
- zip-lock bags
- light cardboard (such as an empty cereal box)
- toothpicks
- markers or paint
- small plastic tube (or something similar)
- pen lid (or something similar)
- tissue paper
- pipe cleaners
- wooden skewers
- parchment or waxed paper
- sculpting tool or manicure stick
- fuzzy yarn
- drinking straw (or something similar)
- wire mesh or strainer
- thin paper
- fishing line
- feathers
- tape
- wool cloth scraps

As you begin forming shapes or designs with the clay, relax and use your imagination. In fact, even though the book might suggest specific ways to do something, use those suggestions as starting points for your own unique creations. Remember, you don't have to keep everything you make—sometimes inventors try many times before they come up with the right design!

As you progress through the book, you may choose to save some of your favorite models that you create. With your parent's permission, set them aside, or if you are using polymer clay, bake them.

Good luck as you begin your clay adventure!

GREAT LEAPS UNIT

Lesson 1, Part 4G

Supplies: Small zip-lock bags Markers or paint (optional)

First, separate the various colors and, if you want, store each one in a zip-lock bag. Then start the book by reading pages 2 through 7, entitled “Materials” and “Basic Techniques.” You probably don’t need everything shown on those pages, because often other things around your house will do the job just as well. For example, index cards or construction paper can usually substitute for cardboard; pipe cleaners can be used in place of tubing; markers usually work as well as paint; and so forth. You can make other colors by mixing clay together—but don’t combine too much at a time, because they can’t be “un-mixed” if you don’t like the result!

Just about all the designs suggest using light cardboard (or something similar) and/or toothpicks. Anything else that is suggested will be listed in the Supplies list—but you’re free to use whatever you have!

The more you warm clay in your hands, the easier it will be to shape. So be sure to start each session by kneading, or squeezing and pulling, the colors you plan to use. If you decide to use polymer clay instead of the type included with Paths of Progress, you can find instructions for baking it on the package or online (with your parent’s permission!). If you particularly like any of your creation, just set them aside in a safe place. In fact, you might want to include a few in your Unit Presentation at the end of Lesson 6.

When you’re finished reading the sections above, follow the directions on pages 8 and 9 to sculpt a clown fish. You might want to try something besides cardboard for the fins—like small, flattened pieces of clay, an index card, or construction paper—but it’s up to you.

Lesson 2, Part 4G

Supplies: Small plastic tube (or something similar)

Follow the directions on pages 10 and 11 in *Modeling Clay Animals* to sculpt a sea urchin and a starfish. When you’re finished with those, try creating the crab on pages 12 and 13. Use your imagination and see if you can think of other ways this little animal could be formed.

Lesson 3, Part 4G

Supplies: Pen lid (or something similar) Tissue paper
 Markers or paint Plastic tubes or pipe cleaners

Pages 14 through 17 in *Modeling Clay Animals* show how to sculpt a dolphin, jellyfish, and seahorse—and all three are perfect opportunities to let your imagination loose! Try making the projects as shown, or come up with your own ideas (you can find some pictures of these animals for inspiration). Either way, have fun!

Lesson 4, Part 4G

Supplies: Pen lid (or something similar) Wooden skewer (or something similar)
 Markers or paint

In this part, try sculpting a turtle and a seagull like those on pages 18 through 21 in *Modeling Clay Animals*. As always, use the suggestions on these pages as starting points, and see if you can give the designs your own twist!

Lesson 2, Part 4G

Supplies: Fishing line Small plastic tubes or pipe cleaners
 Marker

Pages 78 through 81 in *Modeling Clay Animals* show how to sculpt a ladybug and a beetle. Use the techniques described on those pages, or create your own designs.

Lesson 3, Part 4G

Supplies: Fishing line Small plastic tube or something similar

Follow the directions on pages 82 through 84 in *Modeling Clay Animals* to sculpt a snail and an ant. Enjoy making them as suggested, or design your own!

Lesson 4, Part 4G

Supplies: Small plastic tubes Parchment or waxed paper

Look at the mosquito and wasp on pages 85 through 87 in *Modeling Clay Animals*. Then follow the directions to sculpt these outdoor pests. They can look any way you want, so use your imagination and have fun!

Lesson 5, Part 4G

Supplies: Wool cloth scraps Small plastic tubes
 Parchment or waxed paper

Today, try sculpting a fly and a frog like those on pages 88 through 91 in *Modeling Clay Animals*. As always, use the suggestions on these pages as starting points, and then try to give the designs your own twist!

Lesson 6, Part 4G

Supplies: Small plastic tubes (or something similar) Wire mesh or strainer
 Markers or paint Fishing line

Finish your garden insects and animals (and the book!) by sculpting the lizard and grasshopper shown on pages 92 through 95 in *Modeling Clay Animals*.

Then take a few minutes to talk with your teacher about the clay sculpting in this unit. How did it go? Do you think you improved? How did the garden animals compare with the many other types of animals you have made? Which was your favorite design? Be sure to include some sculpting samples in your Unit Presentation!

SUCCESS TAKES FLIGHT UNIT

In Unit 5, you will create a claymation project. Instructions for this project will be found in the files section of the Trail Guide to Learning Yahoo group (<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/LearningSeries/>). If you are in need of printed directions, please call us at 800-426-4650.