

Make Magic Sinking Sand

The geologic deposits known as quicksand have long been popular in Western movies. Pity the luckless cowboy that would stumble into the deadly mire! Real quicksand is a deep mass of loose sand that has a lot of water, and heavy objects will indeed easily sink.

You can amaze your friends with your own quicksand, by mixing two cups of QuickSand with one cup of water. Pour out any excess water. Place your concoction in a deep bowl and shape it into a mound (if it won't hold its shape, pour off more water).

Place a rock on top of the mound and show your friends how the sand holds up the rock. Start to tap or shake the bowl, and watch as the sand mound collapses. Continue shaking until the rock disappears into the quicksand. You've made real quicksand!

The amazing thing about quicksand (and what fooled everybody who sank in it) is that it *looks* hard. Did you notice how you were able to mound it up, and the sand held its shape? This experiment demonstrates liquefaction (the ability of solid material to become liquid) and the principle of thixotropic materials (the ability of a material to hold its shape). Have fun developing your own experiments with this amazing wonder of nature!

Mud Pies

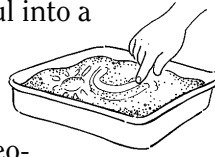
Classic mud pies are easy with QuickSand. Mix two cups of QuickSand with 3/4 cup of water, and stir well. Scoop the sand out of the mixing bowl and onto a tray, packing it into a mound. Tap the top to flatten, and break out the forks!

Almost as easy as mud pies and much more gross are what the cowpokes call "cow pies." Swirl your damp QuickSand into a spiral, and *voilà!* You now have something you don't want to step in!

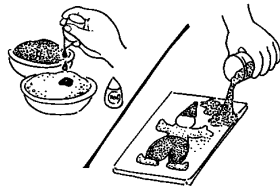


Dry QuickSand Use

Sand Tray—QuickSand is ideal for sand play indoors or out. Pour the bucketful into a large, plastic tray (like a sweater storage box), and you have a great indoor sand box. Get your cars, trucks, dinosaurs or little people. Try making your own "world," and invite friends to play with you.



Making Different-Colored QuickSand—QuickSand can be colored with food coloring.



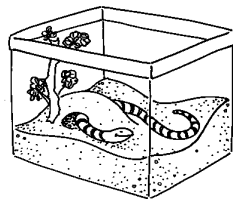
Place two spoonfuls of QuickSand in a disposable cup, and add several drops of food coloring. Mix well with a popsicle stick or spoon and set aside. Repeat with other colors—the more food coloring used, the brighter the sand color will be. Once dry, you may apply the QuickSand to the self-adhesive sand art boards sold at your local craft store, or use your own cardboard and white glue to make your own sand art board.

Reptile Cages—Reptiles love the clean, silky texture of QuickSand, because it comes from the desert, where reptiles feel right at home. If you use a heat rock or heating pad to keep your scaly friends warm, they'll love you even more, because

QuickSand's denser mass spreads the heat more evenly, for a cozier environment.

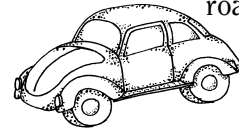
You can make your reptile cage unique by wetting the sand and forming it into hills, ledges and caves. After it dries, the sand will hold its form and provide interesting terrain for your snakes and lizards to explore.

QuickSand is wonderful when it comes time to clean your cage, because it clings to reptile's droppings. Simply scoop out and dispose of the used sand—there's no need to replace everything!

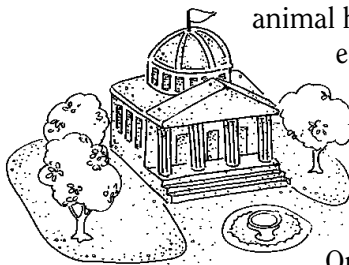
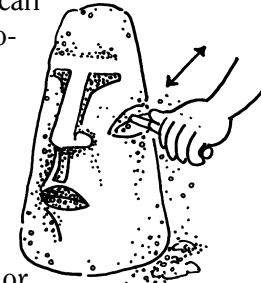


School and Science Projects—

QuickSand's fineness, density and shape-holding qualities make it great for use in any school or science project. Since QuickSand is from the Jurassic Period, 200 million years ago, and many dinosaurs



roamed in the area where it was found, it's authentic sand for your prehistoric dioramas. QuickSand can really help dress up your project and save time. Damp QuickSand can be used to mold, shape or build all or part of your school project. Try making a diorama landscape, volcano, earthquake model, old Spanish mission or



animal habitat. Use it for a science experiment. Press some shells or other shapes into it to make fossil imprints. Whatever your imagination requires, QuickSand can provide the building material to do the job.

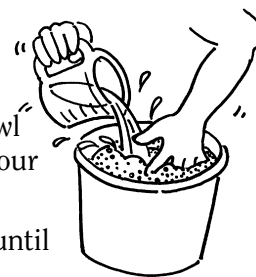
Making QuickSand Into Sandstone

When making sandstone blocks for carving, plan enough time for the wet sand to dry completely. You will need:

- Some newspaper to spread out
- A tray that can be baked in the oven or put in the microwave oven
- A big bowl to mix the sand in

1. Put loose sand into a bowl and add one part water to four parts sand.

2. Mix the water and sand until it is all wet.



3. Place the sand on a tray and make a mound.

4. Pack the sand as firm as you can with your hands.



5. Place your sand mound in a sunny, dry spot, and allow to dry for 2–4 days, if it's summertime. If the weather is cooler, ask Mom or Dad to put the tray of wet sand in the oven and bake it at 210° F. Let it cook overnight, and by morning it will be ready.

For smaller amounts, it will take four to five hours to dry out in a preheated oven. Do not touch or move the mounded sand until it is completely dry and cool. Breaks and fractures can occur if the mound is still wet inside. **LET THE SAND COOL** for 2–4 hours before touching it.

Carving Your QuickSandstone

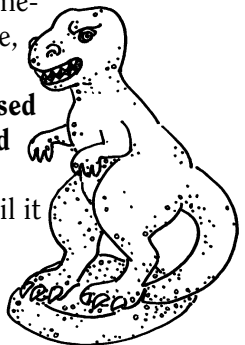
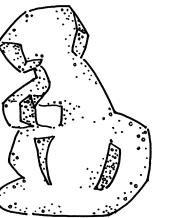
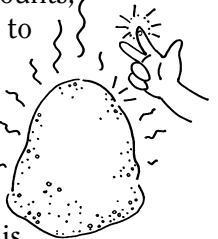
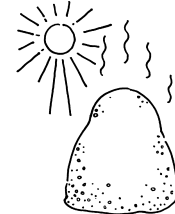
1. Make a general shape of what you want to carve.

2. Carve from the top down, so loose sand stays out of finished area.

3. Remember, if you want to make something else, **the sand can be used again and**

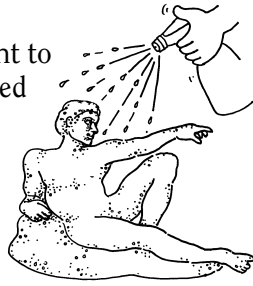
again. Squeeze the carved block with your fingers until it crumbles, and follow the instructions for making sandstone.

(Turn page over)



Making It Permanent

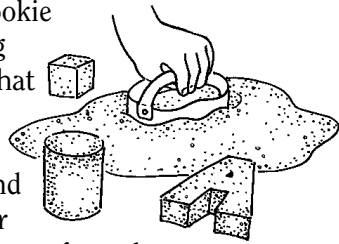
If you like your carving and want to make it permanent, you will need a common spray bottle, water and water-base glue.



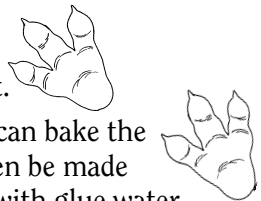
1. In the bottle, mix one part glue to four parts water.
2. Lightly spray the sculpture and wait to dry. **Do not touch** until dry!
3. Spray as many times as you want; each coat will make it harder.

Making Shapes

It's possible to create a wide variety of shapes with QuickSand. Use cookie cutters, cake decorating stuff, or anything else that can punch out a shape. Pack damp QuickSand into blocks or shapes and allow to dry, or use your cookie cutters to cut shapes from damp QuickSand that has been packed or rolled thin. Here's how:



1. Mix QuickSand and water until part damp (about three parts QuickSand to one part water).
2. Scoop a handful of QuickSand, and place it in the cookie cutter.
3. Pack the QuickSand down into the cookie cutter, and clean the extra sand from around the shape. Carefully lift the cookie cutter off, keeping the shape intact.
4. To speed drying, you can bake the sand. The shape may then be made permanent by spraying with glue water.

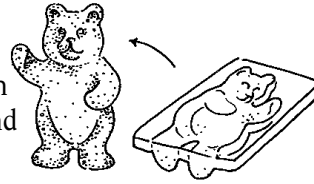


Fossil Imprints—This is a fun activity to do with any shape. Mix two cups of QuickSand with 1/2 cup of water. Get a

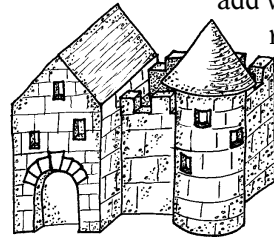


sea shell, your favorite fossil, or even your hand, and press it into the QuickSand. Slowly, remove it. The fine texture of QuickSand will give you an imprint of the item. Experiment with different shapes to see what works best—the list of imprinting possibilities is endless!

3-D Molds—You can make shapes using molds by packing wet sand into the mold and allowing the sand to dry. The QuickSand can be baked (if the mold allows) to speed drying. The sand will hold the mold's shape when dry, but it can be tricky getting the shape out. The molded figure can then be made permanent and painted, if desired (see column 6).



Models—For years, people have been searching for quick, workable, durable materials to use in making models and demos. Nothing is quicker and easier than damp QuickSand. Just add water until you've

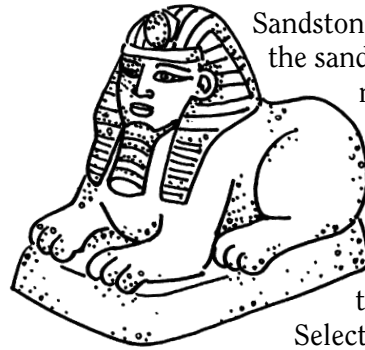


reached a workable consistency, then build your model. Use your hands, molds, forms, or carving and shaping tools. Let your model dry, then carve the dried sand for finer details. QuickSand can maintain its shape indefinitely, and you can paint it and bond things to it with glue. Use it to make model buildings, cities, landforms, historical structures, cars, boats, tools...anything!

Old Spanish Missions

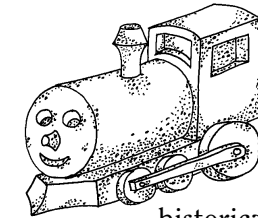
QuickSand is ideal for constructing old Spanish missions, like the Alamo or San Juan Capistrano. The adobe-like color of QuickSand gives your mission an "authentic" look that Davy Crockett would feel at home in.

To build a small mission, follow the directions listed in the "Making QuickSand Into



"Sandstone" section. Pack all the sand in the bucket into a mound as high as possible on a strong tray that does not flex. Let dry according to "QuickSand Sandstone" directions in column 4.

Select an example of the mission you wish to make, and begin carving sand away. Make outside walls first, then carve out the inner courtyard and make the top of the walls flat on three sides. Remember, the front has a bell tower; use the picture on the bucket label as an example of the tower shape. Carve in a front door, some windows and little holes about half way up the walls for simulated wood beams—we use 1" long pieces of wooden skewers or toothpicks in our holes. Add little people, trees, etc. to decorate your mission. If you want a large-scale mission, you'll need more sand, as well as advanced building methods. Have fun and enjoy!



The Sculpting Possibilities Are Endless!

Pictures of sculpting ideas are scattered throughout this guide. Be realistic or abstract, geometric or wild, historical or modern, simple or complex. It's all up to you—the artist!

Painting QuickSand

Anything you make can be painted. First, follow the directions under "Making It Permanent." When your sand is completely dry, get your **poster paints** and paint brush, and begin. See the example of the panda on the bucket label for what is possible. Remember, opaque paint works better than water colors, and QuickSand that has been painted is not reusable (but sure looks good)!

Quicksand™



Creativity Guide

Printed on recycled paper



v1106-3

QuickSand™

The *QuickSand Creativity Guide* contains ideas and helpful techniques for working with the QuickSand. Please read the enclosed instructions carefully before adding water to QuickSand.

How QuickSand Works

QuickSand is the perfect blend of smooth, rounded, fine grains, which allows it to pack and stick together when damp, and hold its shape when dried.

Just add water to make it work! You can pour it, mold it, shape it, carve it, reuse it, or make it permanent and paint it. It's as easy to clean up as it is to use!

