Name: _____ Date: _____

Clay Gets Hard in the Air

Circle group

Clay is soft and a bit wet. You can make a pinch pot.

Roll the clay in a ball. Push your thumb in the middle. Pinch the sides. Turn it and pinch again. Now it is a little bowl.

Put the pot on a shelf. Wait a few days. The water dries up. The pot gets hard.

Questions

1. What is clay like at first?

_____

_____

2. What do you push in the middle?

_____

_____

3. What do you have after you pinch the sides?

_____

_____

4. Where do you put the pot?

_____

_____

5. Why does the pot get hard?

_____

_____

Words to know

clay: soft mud-like stuff you can shape
pinch: to squeeze with your thumb and finger
bowl: a round dish that holds food
shelf: a flat board on a wall for holding things

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Clay Gets Hard in the Air

Triangle group

Clay is soft and a little wet. You can make a pinch pot with it.

Roll the clay into a ball. Push your thumb into the middle. Pinch the sides with your fingers. Turn it and pinch again. Now you have a little bowl.

Set the pot on a shelf. Wait a few days. The water in the clay dries up. The pot gets hard.

Questions

1. What is clay like at first?

_____

_____

2. What do you push into the middle?

_____

_____

3. What do you have after you pinch the sides?

_____

_____

4. Where do you set the pot?

_____

_____

5. Why does the pot get hard?

_____

_____

Words to know

clay: soft mud-like stuff you can shape
pinch: to squeeze with your thumb and finger
bowl: a round dish that holds food
shelf: a flat board on a wall for holding things

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Clay Gets Hard in the Air

Square group

Clay is soft and slightly damp when you first get it, and you can shape it into a pinch pot.

Begin by rolling the clay into a smooth ball. Press your thumb into the middle, and then pinch the sides gently with your fingers. Turn the clay a little and pinch again until you have a small bowl.

Set the finished pot on a shelf and wait for a few days. The water inside the clay slowly dries up, and the pot becomes hard.

Questions

1. What is clay like when you first get it?

_____

_____

2. What do you press into the middle of the ball?

_____

_____

3. What do you have after pinching the sides again and again?

_____

_____

4. Where do you set the finished pot?

_____

_____

5. Why does the pot become hard after a few days?

_____

_____

Words to know

clay: soft mud-like stuff you can shape
pinch: to squeeze with your thumb and finger
bowl: a round dish that holds food
shelf: a flat board on a wall for holding things

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

For the teacher: Clay Gets Hard in the Air

Each student sheet carries a shape, not a level. The same topic and facts, written three ways.

Circle: Clay Gets Hard in the Air

Easier · 57 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.9

1. Soft and a bit wet.
2. Your thumb.
3. A little bowl.
4. On a shelf.
5. The water in the clay dries up.

Triangle: Clay Gets Hard in the Air

This passage · 65 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0

1. Soft and a little wet.
2. Your thumb.
3. A little bowl.
4. On a shelf.
5. The water in the clay dries up.

Square: Clay Gets Hard in the Air

Harder · 84 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.1

1. Soft and slightly damp.
2. Your thumb.
3. A small bowl.
4. On a shelf.
5. The water inside the clay slowly dries up.