

Art Activity

Sculpting Activity



Cold Porcelain Sculpture:

Cold Porcelain is an air-drying modeling material that is made from normal household materials. Cold porcelain can be used for sculpting delicate and small details to robust and complex forms.

There are several recipes online for Cold Porcelain, this one uses primarily cornstarch and glue. This is the recipe that gave the best results for drying and sculpting as well as being a good surface to paint on when dried. This activity is engaging for all age ranges and can be enjoyed with the whole family.

1

SEARCH

Search your home for materials.

2

MIX

Combine all the materials into a recipe with good consistency.

3

CREATE

Get creative with your sculpture and think outside the box.

McNay Connection



Ann Agee's Gross Domestic Product

McNay Connection



Kiki Smith's Woman With Arm Raised

McNay Connection



Bill Riely's Variations of a Xuande Bowl

Suggested materials:

- Cornstarch
- White Glue
- Oil (Can use Cooking oil or baby oil, even an oil-based lotion)
- Cup

OPTIONAL

- Paint and brushes

Instructions:

To start it is important to know that different cornstarch and glue will have different results. Mixing smaller quantities is always best, as it is easier to fine tune.

1. Start by mixing about 3-parts starch to 1-part glue in a cup. I pre-poured my materials but would recommend pouring directly into the cup to reduce mess. I used a spoon as a measuring tool, so it was not very exact. Mix consistently until the mixture stops sticking to the sides.
2. Continue mixing until the porcelain is visibly clumping. If it has the consistency of frosting, try adding more cornstarch to the mix. Adding it slowly will help reach the perfect consistency. Most of the tension in the mixture is due to the glue, it is important to add enough starch to counteract the stickiness of it.
3. Once you can touch the mixture without it sticking, start slowly kneading in small

amounts of oil. The best way to add it is by dipping your fingers in a container of oil and knead it in slowly. The oil is used to help with cracking and drying.

4. Place inside a plastic bag to keep it from drying and for later use. I recommend keeping it in the bag when not sculpting.

The fresh porcelain will be squishy and hard to keep upright. Allow for it to dry to make it dense if needed.

OPTIONAL

5. You can decorate your creation with paint once it is dry. A full day will be enough to solidify your sculpture and create a good surface for paint. You can do anything from miniature decorative dinnerware to fun sized sculptures.

