

Make Your Own Playdough

Regional Educational Laboratories
Appalachia, Central, Northwest

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The kitchen is a great place to make comparisons between different units of measurement and become familiar with different measuring tools. No-bake playdough is an easy and fun activity that children of different ages will enjoy.

Activity Instructions

1. Measure and pour the wet ingredients (water, food coloring, and oil) into the small mixing bowl.
2. Measure the dry ingredients (salt and flour) into the large bowl and mix them together.
3. Add the wet ingredients into the dry ingredients. Start mixing.
4. If the mixture is still dry, add 1/2 tablespoon of oil at a time.
5. Pour the mixed ingredients onto the table and knead them together until soft dough is formed.
6. Place the dough in a resealable plastic bag to keep fresh.

Learning Goal: Children compare different units of measurement and use different measuring tools.

Age Range: 4–8 years old

Materials:

1. Ingredients
 - Water: 1/2 cup
 - Food coloring: 5–10 drops
 - Cooking oil: 1 tablespoon
 - Salt: 1/4 cup
 - Flour: 1 cup
2. Tools
 - Measuring cups
 - Measuring spoons
 - Small bowl
 - Large bowl
 - Wooden spoon for mixing

Supporting your child

As you read the instructions and make the recipe together:

- Examine the tools you have.
- Order the measuring tools by size (smallest to largest or the other way around).
- Discuss the difference between one cup and one tablespoon. Which is bigger? How do you know?
- Let your children do the scooping and measuring. Show them how to level off their measurements for accuracy.

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