My child creates 3D clay models of both his own design and copies of 2D images, using toothpicks to create structure and stability and Styrofoam balls internally for shape and to make the creation lighter. He uses a variety of tools to manipulate the clay into the required shapes. / Subject Explorer / LearningCorner.co

Art

- The student learns about different textures, shapes, and forms through manipulating the clay and incorporating toothpicks and Styrofoam balls to build structure and stability in the models.
- They develop spatial awareness and understanding of dimension by translating 2D images into 3D clay models.
- The child enhances their creativity and imagination by designing their own 3D clay models, exploring various colors and forms.

## Math

- The student practices measurement and geometry concepts by using toothpicks to create structure and stability within the 3D models, understanding how to build support and form in different shapes and sizes.
- They engage in problem-solving and critical thinking as they consider the best ways to use the clay and other materials, promoting a basic understanding of engineering principles.

Encourage the child to explore more complex shapes and forms, encouraging them to experiment with different textures and patterns in their creations. Additionally, introducing the concept of scale and proportion can help expand their understanding of spatial relationships and measurement in their art.

## **Book Recommendations**

- <u>Clay Creations: Easy Make and Do</u> by Tessa Sillars Powell: This book provides simple and creative clay projects suitable for young children, encouraging them to explore various techniques and designs.
- The Shape of Things by Dayle Ann Dodds: This engaging picture book introduces children to different shapes and how they relate to everyday objects, offering an interactive learning experience.
- <u>3D Art Lab for Kids: 32 Hands-On Adventures in Sculpture and Mixed Media</u> by Susan Schwake: This book provides a range of hands-on activities and techniques for creating 3D art, offering inspiration and guidance for young artists.

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