



# Techniques in Clay

# Learning Target

- Student will be able to identify and experiment with materials, tools, and techniques appropriately and expressively in his or her own artwork
- Students will be able to create an artwork that serves a function



# How will we achieve this target?

- PowerPoint: Clay techniques (take notes)
- Project: coil vase, glazing
- Clay Quiz
- Critique
- Evaluation

# What is clay?

- **Clay** is a product that comes from the Earth that when heated will solidify.
- **Geologically**, clay comes from decomposed rock. It is typically carried by water and settles together in a particular area where it is mined.
- **Chemically**, clay is a combination of Alumina, Silica, and water
- **Physically**, clay's crystal structure is that of tiny sheets with water between them. The sheets are held together by suction.



# Clay building techniques

- Wedging: kneading clay with the hands to force out air pockets and creates a uniform texture.



# Clay building techniques

- Pinch – using the thumb and forefinger to create an indentation in clay, slowly forming into a bowl





# Clay building techniques

- Coil – a long rope of clay rolled out by hand or with an extruder.



# Videos

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-VHL-IMCNNE&feature=related>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7AhX1MhvAG8&feature=related>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SkUGm87DEok>
- [http://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=how+to+build+a+c  
oil+pot&FORM=VIRE5#view=detail&mid=B1674F6CB5753  
9F923B5B1674F6CB57539F923B5](http://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=how+to+build+a+c<br/>oil+pot&FORM=VIRE5#view=detail&mid=B1674F6CB5753<br/>9F923B5B1674F6CB57539F923B5)



# Clay building techniques

- The slab requires the artist to roll out flat pieces of clay that will form the walls, bottom, and lid of a sculpture.



# Clay building techniques

- Slip and Score: A joining technique where two edges are roughened (scored) and “glued” together with a liquid clay (slip).





# Stages of clay

- **Plastic:** Clay is moist and ready to use
- **Leather hard:** condition of raw clay where it has lost most of its moisture, but it can still be joined or carved.
- **Bone dry:** clay has completely lost its moisture and is ready to be fired.
- **Greenware:** pottery that has not been fired
- **Bisqueware (bisque):** unglazed, white ceramic ware. This has been fired in the kiln only once.



# Glaze

- **Glaze:** a layer of coating that produces color on ceramic pieces
  - It makes the clay water proof and usually food safe
  - Made up of clay, glass, metals, and water
  - Can be brushed, poured or sprayed on





# Fire

- Heating the dry clay to a temperature where the clay structure changes and produces a hard, permanent new clay structure.
- Must be completely dry and free of air bubbles.
- Our clay will heat to 2,000 degrees.



# Kiln

- The furnace like oven made of ceramic used to fire (or heat) ceramic objects.





# Name the Technique



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# Name the Technique



# Name the Technique





# Clean-up

- After each clay session:
  - Wash and dry tables
  - Wash and dry all tools
  - Wash and dry counters and sinks
  - Clay project is inside the plastic bag with your name on it and in the cabinet
  - Sponges rinsed
  - Floors cleaned
  - **ALL STUDENTS ARE TO HELP CLEAN OR NO CLAY!!!**

# Your Assignment

- Create coil pot
- Incorporate decorative coils
- The vessel must be at least 4 inches tall
- Glaze the vessel
- Complete the quiz
- Participate in class critiques
- Evaluation



# IMPORTANT!!!!!!!

- It is very important to follow the rules, listen to all directions, and take your time with ceramics. If you don't this is what happens.





Questions???