

# Duncan ColorWorks

## Mini Coil Pots Ceramic Art Lesson Plan



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## Mini Coil Pots - - Ceramic Art Lesson Plan

**Grade Level:** K-3

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### **Introduction:**

Pots have been around for most of recorded time. In fact pots were used as storyboards to tell about the people in our history. They were written-on with artwork and very old alphabets that have revealed a great deal about human history. Pots can be constructed on potter's wheels, poured and shaped, and coiled. Lots of cultures including the Egyptians, Native Americans, and the Chinese used hand rolled strings of clay to make pots. These pots came in all shapes and sizes. Many different sizes and shapes of coil pots are still being made today.

When constructing the coil pots students are embarking on a practice that has been shared by many cultures for many purposes. Student pots will be mini versions of the pots they could make. Students should use the web pages to identify a specific kind of pot and recreate the styles specific to a culture or time period. As a class you could create a timeline using pottery styles. Pots are versatile containers that can be used for a variety of purposes. What did the people in our past use their pots for and what will the students use their pots for?

### **Educational Objectives:**

This lesson provides opportunities for students to:

- create a coil pot or cup
- role, stack, and design a pot
- learn to about other cultures that made pottery
- learn to use glazes and fire clay

### **References:**

Native American: <http://www.sla.purdue.edu/WAAW/Peterson/Petersonessay2.html>  
Mexican Ceramics: <http://www.mexicanceramic.com/aboutceramics.htm>  
History: <http://www.acss09.hemscott.net/histx102.html>  
Canada: <http://collections.ic.gc.ca/clayandglass/clay.html>  
Native American Technology: <http://nativetech.org/pottery/>

### **Teaching Tips:**

- Have the students work slowly or their pots will flop over.
- Let students practice rolling coils.
- Model the construction for younger children
- Journals can be kept to recall the construction process and historical information.

### **Duncan Materials:**

#### **Cover Coat® Opaque Underglazes:**

- 10, 2oz. Cover Coat® Opaque Underglazes in assorted colors

#### **Envision™ Glazes**

- 10, 4 oz. Envision™ Glazes in assorted colors



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### Brushes/Tools:

- BR 576 ¾" Premium Glaze
- TL 415 Sponge
- BR 593 ¾ inch Economy Glaze Brush
- TL 401 Cleanup tool

### Miscellaneous Materials:

- 30 lbs white low-fire clay
- Board to roll out clay
- Water containers
- Newspaper
- Rollers or a slab roller

### Step-by-Step:

1. Take a 1 lb. ball of clay and roll out several coil canes.
2. Wind the coil on top of each other to create a raised form.
3. Join the edges with just a bit of water.
4. Use a tool or your hands to smooth the insides.
5. Texture the sides if desired
6. To keep the pinch pot from cracking as it dries, place it in a plastic wrapper and let it dry for 3 to 5 days. Larger pots will need to dry longer.
7. The clay will have to be completely dry. You can test the dryness of the clay by touching the clay to your face. If it is cold and not light in color, it is still wet and will explode in the kiln when fired. Bisque fire at cone 04.
8. Paint each piece using the Cover Coat® Opaque Underglazes and Envision™ Glazes, stilt if necessary, and fire to shelf cone 06.

### Project Closure:

#### Language Arts connection and project closure

Write and illustrate a brief description of this project, include detailed descriptions of the materials used and what happened during this project.

National Standards for the Arts:

<http://www.ed.gov/pubs/ArtsStandards.html>

<http://www.mcrel.org/compendium/Standard.asp?SubjectID=13>

State Standards:

<http://edstandards.org/Standards.html>

Or refer to the Dept. of Education for a specific state.

**Please visit [www.duncanceramics.com](http://www.duncanceramics.com), Art Educators tab, Learn tab to view the Standards based Vocabulary and Language Instruction, Art Project Rubric, and Writing Rubric documents.**