

Duncan ColorWorks

Hand Vase Ceramic Art Lesson Plan



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Hand Vase - - Ceramic Art Lesson Plan

Grade Level: K-3

By Pat Hinz

Introduction:

The hand has been used in art by the Aborigines in Australia and has been viewed by people hoping to tell the future. This grabbing lesson is going to use your hand to construct a vase. This sculptural vase will provide fond memories of a child's hand and at the same time hold pencils, pens, and if big enough, a plant. They can also be great gifts for dad and mom. This project is simple, but requires patience. The artistic designs are endless and the vase can be made small or large depending on the student. Your Hand Vase will encourage learning through the exploration of color, design, planning, and artistic expression. This is truly an opportunity to create something as unique as a fingerprint. Time to grab some clay and get your hands messy.

Educational Objectives:

This lesson provides opportunities for students to:

- Work with slab based construction.
- Develop design strategies.
- Understand standards based vocabulary.
- Learn how to apply and use different glazes.
- Learn how to combine language arts and art.
- Understand about self-expression in art.

References:

Grounds for Sculpture: www.groundsfor Sculpture.org
Steel Hand Sculpture: www.brucegray.com
Contemporary Ceramic Art: <http://www.ceramicarts.net/>
The Virtual Library of Ceramics: <http://www.ikts.fhg.de/vl/VL.artistic.ceramics.html>
Ceramic Sculpture: <http://www.ceramicsculpture.com/>

Teaching Tips:

- Have the students trace their hand on paper several times. Color the hands with several designs.
- Complex designs and intricate detail are very difficult to paint so push for simple designs. Provide some simple design examples.
- Let the clay settle over night, so it becomes leathery but not dry. Keep it covered with moist newspaper.

Duncan Materials:

Concept™ Underglazes for Bisque and Majolica:

- 10, 2 oz. Concepts™ Underglazes in assorted colors

Brushes/Tools:

- BR 576 ¾" Premium Glaze
- BR 582 No. 5/0 Detail
- BR 529 No. 4 Sabeline Round
- TL 406 Lace Draper
- TL 415 Sponge



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Miscellaneous Materials:

- Soft low fire clay (approximately 1 lbs. for each student)
- Rolling pin(s) for rolling slabs
- Two boards of equal thickness to use as shims for slab rolling
- Newspaper

Step-by-Step:

1. Place the two boards parallel to each other on either side of the clay so that the slab can be rolled to an even thickness.
2. Place your hand on the slab and cut/trace through the slab around your hand. Save the extra pieces, you will need them for step 5.
3. Several students can use a larger slab or they can roll out their own.
4. Set aside overnight under damp, not wet, newspaper to allow the clay to leather.
5. Using the extra pieces of slab form the base, score all areas that will be joined together. Use slurry or water to moisten the clay body so they will join.
6. Set aside under newspaper to dry, 2 to 3 days.
7. When the piece is completely dry, bisque fire to Cone 04.
8. After fired, paint your design with Concepts™ Underglazes. Fire to 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., Art Educators tab, Learn tab to view the Standards based Vocabulary and Language Instruction, Art Project Rubric, and Writing Rubric documents.