

ColorWorks™

Ceramic Arts Lesson Plan

Colorful Animals

Animals have been a part of art for as long as painters and sculptors have painted and sculpted. Pictures and sculptures of animals have been found in caves from thousands of years ago. There are stories of mythical animals found in our constellations and in our folk tales. We build zoos to hold mysterious animals from all over the world and we help animals on the brink of extinction. Animals can be found in homes all around the country and all around the world. There are thousands of interesting animals to look at and study. Animals from Australia are different from animals in Alaska. What do they look like and how are they shaped? Find an animal and let's make it.



Instructions

Materials List

Cone 5-6 Clay

Duncan® Envision® Glazes

- Assorted Colors

Duncan® Crystals Glazes™

- Assorted Colors

Brushes & Tools

- BR 593 Economy Glaze Brush
- TL 420 Palette Knife

Miscellaneous Supplies

- Board to Roll Out Clay
- 3" PVC Pipe
- Disposable Plate
- Paper Clip

For Best Results

Please read all instructions before beginning project. Refer to photo for color & design placement.

Tips for Success

- 1) Research your animal beforehand to determine size of animal as head sizes vary.
- 2) To test if your animal is completely dry, touch it to see if it is wet or looks dark in color. If so, allow project to dry longer. If fired wet, it will explode in the kiln.

Vocabulary

- **Clay:** A firm, fine-grained mixture of minerals from the earth that is flexible when wet and hard when dry.
- **Score:** To scratch tiny crisscross lines on areas of greenware that will be fastened together.



- 1 Roll out six-inch long, half-inch round cylindrical lengths of clay.



- 2 Fold the cylindrical lengths over the three-inch PVC pipe. Where the clay touches the table, press the clay to the table with your thumb or finger. Pinch off the extra clay leaving little feet flat on the table.



- 3 Cut off the extra clay leaving little feet flat on the table.

Instructions Continued ...

4 Animal heads will vary, so some research is going to be needed. Construct your head and identify specific characteristics that your animal has, such as bushy hair, long manes, long necks, and stubby tails. Exaggerating these features will make your animals have character.

5 Score the areas of the 2 pieces to be joined with an opened paper clip. Wet the 2 surfaces, press them together, and smooth them until completely joined.



6 Use extra clay pieces to create the tail or any other characteristic that will help identify the animal.

7 Textures can be pressed into the surface to add decoration or to show fur, feathers, or other details.

8 Move completed animals to a flat surface covered with newspaper and allow it to dry thoroughly (about 1 week).

9 Fire to cone 04.

Last Steps!



10 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 to cone 04.



11 Glaze heads and tails with Envision® Glazes in assorted colors. Glaze bodies with Crystals Glazes™ in assorted colors. You will need to choose a creative color. The results will be different every time! Fire to cone 06.



© 2019 Duncan Ceramics
5673 E. Shields Avenue
Fresno, CA 93727

Get inspired at DuncanCeramics.com

Visual Arts Standards

The relevant National Visual Arts Standards were considered in the design of this lesson plan.