



Painting Clay with Tissue Paper

Using tissue paper to finish clay sculptures is a wonderful way to preserve natural clay without firing it in a kiln! This method of decorating can be used on any clay sculpture that doesn't have too many small parts and details. Pinch pots or abstract designs are good forms for adhering tissue paper.

- 1) Place your clay sculpture gently on a piece of newspaper.
- 2) Cut up a variety of tissue paper into small squares with a paper cutter or scissors. Place these squares on a tray or in a baking dish to help organize the space and minimize clean-up.
- 3) In a small yogurt container create a mixture of 50% water/ 50% Elmer's glue and mix together. It is helpful for each child to have his/her own glue container and glue brush for the project.
- 4) Use an old paint brush or a glue brush to apply the Elmer's glue wash to the clay form.
- 5) Place one piece of tissue paper at a time onto the clay form and use the glue brush to smooth down all the edges.
- 6) Keep applying and smoothing the tissue paper until the whole form is covered. Make sure there are no edges sticking up or they will become sharp when the glue dries.
- 7) Wash your hands and let your sculpture dry in a safe place.