

Play and salt dough

Hanging decorations

What you need

- Salt dough.
- Plastic tools.
- Spatulas.
- Pencil.
- Rolling pin.
- Wool.

Useful vocabulary

- Salt dough.
- Shapes.
- Roll.
- Cut.
- Thread.
- Twist.
- Pattern.

Related resources

Songs and rhymes

- **Twinkle Twinkle Little Star**

What children will learn

This activity will encourage the children to work creatively and imaginatively. They will develop their hand-eye co-ordination. The children will learn to share and take turns. This activity will fit well with a topic like **Christmas**.

Links specifically to these Early Learning Goals: PSED 1.1, MD8, KU6, PD8, CD4.

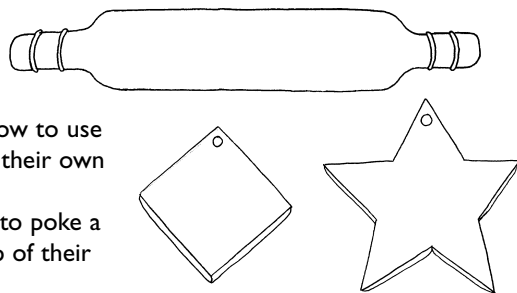
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Hanging decorations

What to do

- Start this activity with a group of 4 children.
- Give each child a lump of salt dough with glitter in.
- Ask the children to use their hands to play with the dough.
- Now, roll the salt dough to roughly 1cm thickness with the rolling pin.
- Show the children how to use the tools to cut out their own shape.
- Now, use the pencil to poke a hole through the top of their shape.
- Use the spatula and other tools to create different patterns on their shapes.
- When the decorations are dry – thread the wool through the hole and tie in a knot.
- Each child now has his own hanging decorations.



More to do

- Make more decorations – use these to create a collection of hanging mobiles!
- Make some card templates – hole punch all around the outside of the shapes. Now, in small groups, give the children some wool and their own template. Show them how to thread the wool in and out the template.

Home links

- Play some threading games at home, using pieces of wool and pasta tubes.
- Make these into hanging decorations or mobiles.
- Try threading buttons together. Sort the buttons – according to colour or perhaps size.

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