

Cinnamon Apple Ornaments

Fall, 2009



Lesson Plan Title: Cinnamon Apple Ornaments

Grade Level: 1st-2nd grade

Group 3: Taryn, Diane, Hiroko, and Nicole

Objectives:

1. (Domain 1: Artistic perception) Students will learn some of the elements of art, such as; form, line, pattern, and color, as well as positive and negative space. Will learn to Distinguish among various media when looking at works of art (e.g., clay, paints, drawing materials).
2. (Domain 2: Creative Expression) Students will develop their skills in painting, design, and ceramics/sculpture by creating a slab from the cinnamon apple play dough. Demonstrate beginning skill in the manipulation and use of sculptural materials such as cinnamon apple dough/clay to create form and texture. Communication and Expression Through Original Works of Art or Plan and use variations in line, shape/form, color, and texture to communicate ideas or feelings in works of art.
3. (Domain 3: Historical and Cultural Context of the Visual Arts) Students will learn the historical popularity of cookie cutters in North America throughout the 19th century and cultural value of ornaments. Recognize and discuss the design of everyday objects from various time periods and cultures.
4. (Domain 4: Aesthetic Valuing) Students will learn to look critically at 3D sculpture and design, and determine the value of such design.

5. (Domain 5: Connections, Relationships, and Application) This project could be used to create decorations for any holiday or special occasion. You could relate this project to literature, social studies, science, and earth science, and math/measuring, there are lots of cool cookie cutters out there. To focus on math concepts through making cinnamon apple dough

Students Materials:

1. Zip Lock bag, small container
2. $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of ground cinnamon
3. 1 cup of apple sauce
4. Wax paper
5. Elmer's Glue (puff paint, acrylic paint, glitter etc.)
6. News paper tables
7. Rolling pin
8. Assorted cookie cutters
9. A straw or toothpick
10. Assorted decorative materials
11. String or ribbon

Teacher Materials:

1. Power Point presentation "A History of Cookie Cutters and Decorations"
2. YouTube Video Demonstration "Steps for making cinnamon apple ornaments"
3. Student Examples
4. "Apple Cinnamon Decorations" Handout

Vocabulary:

1. Silhouette
2. Cinnamon
3. Slab
4. Tin-smith
5. Festoon
6. Symbol

Procedures:

1. Introduction: A discussion of the origins of cookie cutters and decorations in the 19th century.
2. Get a zip lock bag which contains $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of cinnamon and a small container with 1 cup of applesauce.
3. Add the applesauce to the bag of cinnamon.
4. Now seal the bag and squish the contents with your hands until well mixed and a dough has formed.
5. Place the dough on a piece of wax paper.
6. Cover the dough with an additional piece of was paper.
7. Use the rolling pin to create a $\frac{1}{4}$ in slab.
8. Use cookie cutters to make fun shape out of the dough then remove excess dough from the edges.
- *use smaller cookie cutters to create negative spaces in the larger shapes if desired.*
9. Add a hole for hanging using a straw or toothpick.
10. Set dough shapes aside to dry for about 3 days, Flip dough shapes over periodically to be sure both sides dry evenly. Or dry in the oven at a low temperature for 2 hours.
11. Once the cutouts are dry add the students name and the year to the back with paint or by gluing cardstock to the back and writing with a pen.
12. Decorate the ornament and allow to dry again.
14. Index Card: Name, title, and brief explanation.

Closure: Display ornament and index card. Discuss and critique.

Visual Procedures:

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Step 1 Step 2 Step 3 Step 4
Mix Roll Out Cut Out Decorate

Assessments: Did the student follow directions and procedure? Did they take advantage of the decorative materials? Did the Student complete the project?

Artistic Development: 1st - 2ND grade

1st to 2nd graders fall between the ages 4-8 which puts them in stage 2, Making Symbols. According to the text students in the second stage are "developing their line and shape making skills as well as muscular coordination in handling drawing tools, scissors, glue sticks, and modeling clay." Students in this stage concentrate on relaying ideas in symbols.

Cultural and Historical Background

A History of Cookie Cutters

Decorated cakes and biscuits were very popular in North America throughout the 19th century. One type was a biscuit or cookie cut into a variety of shapes and sizes representing for example, people, animals, fruits, vegetables, household wares and a host of other articles. The fancy cookies were particularly in demand on festive occasions when they would be used to make decorative festoons - as well as providing welcome snacks for guests.

The cookie shapes were cut from pastry dough using cutters made from tin by local tinsmiths. Tin was used because it was cheap and readily available, easy to form and solder, corrosion resistant, non poisonous and easy to keep clean. Cookie cutters for the most part were made from left-over tin scraps. Some interesting examples have turned up showing they were made from flattened baking powder tins and canisters.

A cookie cutter in the mid 19th century might cost between 5c and 10c and a family, in the course of time, might accumulate a dozen or so for use on special occasions. Original cookie cutters come in a wide range of sizes measuring from about 1" high to 24" high (some cookie!).

Suggestions and/or Comments:

To adapt this project for science ask the students to predict what will happen when they mix the dry ingredients with the wet ones, What do they think will happen if the mixture stays exposed to the air? It will be a lesson of how matter changes.

Be sure to find out if any of the students are allergic to the dough ingredients. If so, flour and salt recipes are available as an alternative.

Inform students that they will make cinnamon ornaments to decorate their homes.

Tell students the dough will look like cookie dough but won't taste good.

Provide a model of what the ornaments may look like. Permit students to examine it closely. Point out the fragrance. Permit students to examine the cinnamon.

Have students assist in measuring the ingredients.

Once ornaments are completed, place on a piece of cardboard. Write child's name below ornament on the cardboard to avoid confusion.