



Craft
Ages 6–8
30 minutes

Playdough Earth

Description

Learn about the different layers of our Earth with playdough.

Competencies

- Sensory motor skills
- Study of nature
- Following directions
- Eye-hand coordination

Materials

- Playdough in the following colors:
 - Red (used for Earth's inner core)
 - Yellow (used for Earth's outer core)
 - Orange (used for Earth's mantle layer)
 - Green (used for Earth's land)
 - Brown (used for Earth's crust layer)
 - Blue (used for Earth's water)
- Plastic knife
- Optional: toothpicks
- Optional: tape
- Optional: marker or pen

Preparation

- Create balls of playdough of every colour, enough for each participant
- Make the balls in increasing size in this order: red, yellow, orange, green, brown, blue



Implementation

1. Start with a ball of red playdough to represent the Earth's core
2. Flatten the yellow playdough ball and put it around the red
3. Repeat for the other colours: orange, brown then blue
4. Using the green playdough, create the land masses for Earth
5. Cut the finished Earth in half to view the different layers that represent the inside of our planet
6. Optional: Have the children label the different layers they see using toothpicks, tape, and a pen

Book Suggestions

Earth!: My First 4.54 Billion Years by Stacy McAnulty

Here We Are: Notes for Living on Planet Earth by Oliver Jeffers

Rivers, Seas and Oceans by Mack

Thank you, Earth: A Love Letter to Our Planet by April Pulley Sayre

Utterly Amazing Earth by Dougal Jerram

When Planet Earth was New by James Gladstone

Images and Templates



The finished playdough Earth cut in half



Optional: label the layers