

Playdough Area

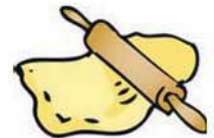


Today we made play dough and Jackson was eager to get started to create his cookies. "I want to make biscuits" Jackson said. He took the shape cutters from the shelf and put them on the table. Jackson took a big lump of play dough and started flattening it with the palm of his hand. "This is how nanna makes the same for biscuits" he explained. Once the play dough was flattened, Jackson took a shape cutter and put it on top of the dough. He pushed it to create the shape and carefully lifted the cut out shape of his play dough. "A star cookie, see. Now put it in the oven to cook" Jackson said. He put it onto a plate and kept it aside. As he waited he continued squishing and squashing the play dough. After a minute, "star biscuit is ready" Jackson called. He took some red play dough, made balls rolling it in his palm and placed it around the star. "Now we can eat" Jackson said with a smile.

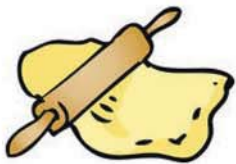
Benefits of Playdough Area



- Children are motivated to explore its sensory qualities
- The dough responds to the child's actions
- Strengthens small fingers, hands and wrists
- Builds child's imagination as they play with it, creating as they wish
- Develops self-esteem – no right or wrong way to play
- It's calming and helps children relieve stress through their hands



Linking To The Framework



- Children Have a Strong Sense of Identity
- Children are Connected and Contribute to their World
- Children Have a Strong Sense of Well Being
- Children are Confident and Involved Learners
- Children are Effective Communicators



Principles

- Secure, respectful and reciprocal relationships
- Partnerships
- High Expectations and equity
- Respect for diversity
- Ongoing learning and reflective practices

Practices

- Holistic approaches
- Responsiveness to children
- Learning through play
- Intentional teaching
- Learning environments
- Cultural competence
- Continuity of learning and transition
- Assessment for learning