



CERAMICS

Project Overview

In this project book, youth will learn the basics of making their own unique pottery. Units are divided into different categories which include easy to follow instructions.

Key Learning Topics

- Clay bodies: earthenware, stoneware, porcelain, and air dry and polymer clays.
- Understand various tools and what they are used for.
- When and how to wedge clay.
- What is a slip cast and how to use it.
- Various firing techniques.
- Types of pottery wheels and how to use them.
- About paints and glazes
- What's a Kiln and how to use it.

Expanding the Project

- Share information about Ceramics with other groups or teach younger members the skills you have learned
- Give a demonstration on your 4-H Ceramics Project
- Take photos of your 4-H activities and enter the State 4-H Photography Contest
- Make and donate ceramic items to the retirement or children's home
- Organize a trip to a local ceramics shop.

Resources

- Ceramics (R-2025)
- General Project Record Sheet 300.A-7 (R-18)

Exhibit Guidelines

- EARTHENWARE: Low-fire clay body that is still porous after firing
- STONEWARE: High-fire and chip resistant clay body
- PORCELAIN: Fine-grained and translucent when fired is highly chip resistant
- AIR DRY CLAY: soft pliable craft clay for sculpting, modeling, and molding that naturally hardens without firing in a kiln.
- MOLD FORMED SLIP CAST: uses a liquid clay poured into plaster molds then low-fired when dry.
- POTTERY: Articles formed of clay
 1. One glazed item
 2. One underglazed item—ceramic color was used under a glaze
 3. One overglazed item— decorative finish fired on a glazed surface
 4. One unfired finish item – stains, dry brush, air brush, etc.
 5. Molded formed slip cast item (Must be prepared by member)
 6. One hand-molded (built) clay item using pinch pot method
 7. One hand-molded (built) clay item using coil pot method
 8. One hand-molded (built) clay item using slab method
 9. One wheel formed (thrown) item
 10. One air-dry decorative item
 11. One greenware adaptation item
 12. Self-Determined Ceramics Exhibit

Targeting Life Skills.

- Resiliency
- Self Motivation
- Problem Solving
- Goal Setting
- Planning and Organizing

