**Andrea MacMurray Teaching date: 4/20/10**

**Younger Toddlers (18 months – 2 years)**

**Art/Creative Expression**

**Anticipated Length of Learning Experience: 10 minutes plus**

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this activity is to encourage creative expression / aesthetic development. The children will be creating and imaging their own constructions through play dough which is an open ended activity.

**Curriculum Standard:**

Creative Expression / Aesthetic Development: Invention and Imagination

The children will be increasing their ability to create, invent and participate in array of open ended activities **Background Knowledge:**

Blue Horses

* The majority of the class enjoys painting.
* J and S will not touch paint with their fingers but given a paint brush they enjoy it.
* I flattens his play dough out into what he calls a ‘pancake’
* L says “small ball small ball . . . please”
* H says “ball”

Child Development/Content of this Age Group

* Toddlers are curious
* Respond to external stimulus with vocal and facial expressions
* Express themselves using a variety of facial and bodily movements
* Demonstrates an interest in listening, vocalizing, singing and moving
* Attempts to use a variety of materials
* Use their imagination
* Moves in response to music
* Begin to engage in pretend play
* Notices shapes, textures, temperatures, light, colors, sounds, tastes, aromas and movement.
* Children of this age group are busy exploring their world through their new perspective upright.
* Children are fascinated and therefore imitate everyday adult activities through all aspects of play

**Objectives:**

The children will be able to express their creativity through play dough. They will be drawing from prior knowledge to reenact life experiences.

**Assessment Plan:**

I will document this activity through photo documentation. After this activity I will take notes on how the activity went. I will take time to reflect on this lesson. I will know my objectives have been met when the dialog with the children corresponds with my objectives. I will document the shapes and designs the children make through photo documentation.

**Materials Needed:**

Play dough

Toys

**Introduction/Orientation**

I will begin the lesson by placing the play dough on the table. I will invite the children over to experiment with the play dough. V would you like to create a play dough llama? (He has a special llama)

**Body of Lesson**

“J I see you have rolled you play dough.” I will encourage dialog by saying something like your play dough reminds me of a snake I will wait to see what he says. I will also be demonstrating various ways to play with the play dough such as squishing it, flattening it, rolling it, cutting it and using a cookie cutter.

**Conclusion**

Looks like it is time to clean up the play dough. We need to clean up so we can go outside!

**Child Guidance/Classroom management Plan:**

* I will only allow enough children to come to the table as there are chairs. Therefore, each child has space to experiment.
* I will address situations such as throwing the play dough by saying you may roll the play dough or use this toy to cut it.
* Eating the play dough seems to be another potential problem I will give that child other things to do with the play dough. M how about you squish the play dough in this cup.

**Next steps/Extensions:**

Children can extend this activity through to the dramatic play area. For instance if they were making pancakes they could then make bacon and pancakes in the dramatic play area.