



Pinch Pot Creatures:

Creativity CAN be funny; you can really get creative with this project!

Supplies Needed:

Critter Clay

Clay Mat

Modeling Tools

Tap Water (just a splash to help smooth if needed)



TIPS:

*Critter Clay will be workable for 30-40 minutes, then it will start to dry out... keep your clay sealed in the bag until you need more. Try not to add any water for best results, but a little bit may be used to smooth some spots out. Once you make your piece, it will take 1 - 4 days to fully dry, ask an adult to help you tip your piece or flip it over to make sure all sides dry during this time. *You don't have to wait to paint it! You can paint your pieces at ANY time, yes, right after you make it is fine too – BUT your clay is not dry yet so be careful not to smash your sculpture. You can paint day 1, 2, or 10...anytime. Adding paint will not affect the drying time. Acrylic paints work the best!*

**Note to Parent; have your child pull their hair back in a pony tail or use a head band to avoid hands touching their face while working with Critter Clay; while Critter Clay is very safe to use, it does dry on the hands while working with it and becomes flaky (avoid contact with eyes and mouth). Critter Clay will wash out of clothes really easily with standard wash care. Dried Critter Clay can be vacuumed up. If a part like a tooth or eye ball comes off, use a dab of any all- purpose glue to resecure it.*

Let's get started:

Take half the clay in the bag about ½ pound (be sure to seal the rest back up in the bag so it doesn't dry out!)

Start by making a ball. To shape the main body/mouth you need to form a bowl shape; cup the clay in both hands and pinch the clay down with your fingers until you have a bowl like shape.



Place the “bowl” on the clay mat on its side. ($\frac{1}{4}$ ” – $\frac{1}{2}$ ” thickness is good):
WOW look at THAT you made a HUGE mouth!!

Time to add some eyeballs: Take a marble size clay (any size you want) and form 2 balls equal sized (only if you want, they can be different sizes too). Make a dent for each eye ball with the end of your clay tool. Score the clay, then set your eyes, use your tool to press gently into the clay to secure your eye balls, press up under the eye from inside the mouth....you don’t want them rolling off!



Make a tail if you want – mine will be a fish, but yours can be a twirly monkey tail, or pig curled tail, or no tail at all. Because mine is a fish – I will also make fins...you might want to make arms, or paws. THIS is LOOKIN GOOOOOD!

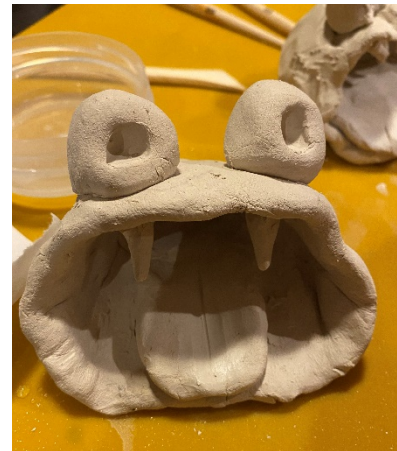


Add a texture to the outside – this is optional...I’m going to add a few fish scales, using the wire end on the modeling tool; gently pull/lift a little clay up and back the tool out.



LOOK AT WHAT YOU MADE!!!!

Lastly: add a tongue, or teeth. Use the same method to apply them to your sculpture – score, apply and secure. I do this last because you need to be able to put your hand in the mouth to help secure that tail – saves you from having to do this part over again.



Use a tad of water to smooth when needed – just a little bit – you don't want to soak your piece just a little dip on your finger or tool will be enough.

Let your sculpture dry...this could take a few days so BE PATIENT! Try hard and let your sculpture sit 1 - 4 days, you might need a grown-up to help you pull it from your clay mat and tip it on its side so the bottom dries.

Clean-up! Warm water & soap will take that dry clay off your hands really fast!
Paint your creature!and probably order more Critter Clay! www.avesclay.com



Examples of how your project might turn out!
Adult, (top left) 6-year-old, (top right) 9-year-old (front).