

# Clay Modeling — Creating Animals

Base Sheet

Activity Sheet

The child sculpts animals from clay, developing three-dimensional thinking, fine motor control, and creative expression. Connects to the animal classification science lesson.

## What You Need:

- Air-dry clay or modeling clay
- Sculpting tools (popsicle stick, plastic knife, toothpick)
- Work mat or board
- Water cup for smoothing
- Paper towels

## Steps:

1. Set up clay station: clay (air-dry or modeling), mat, sculpting tools (popsicle stick, plastic knife, toothpick), water cup.
2. Today we're making ANIMALS from clay! Think about the animals we classified today!
3. Demonstrate basic clay techniques: rolling (for snakes and worms), pinching (for ears and fins), smoothing (for connecting parts).
4. To make a body: roll a ball. To make legs: roll four small cylinders. To connect: smooth the joint with your thumb!
5. What animal will you create? A vertebrate or an invertebrate?
6. Child sculpts their chosen animal. Add details with tools: eyes, texture, patterns.
7. Tell me about your animal. What is it? Vertebrate or invertebrate?
8. Let air-dry or store for firing.

## Work Space:

