



# Homemade Play Dough

## STEM Activity

Homemade play dough is easy to make and easy to store. Just put it in a Ziploc bag and it will last a month or more. Play dough is awesome for building strength in hands, which helps with pre-writing and fine motor skills.

**STEM LEARNING:** Before you and your child mix the ingredients, let them touch each one and feel its texture; let them have a small taste. As you're mixing it, talk about the changes that are occurring in the mixing bowl, how the ingredients change consistency and color as you mix. Discuss how kneading the mixture makes the dough change from a sticky, lumpy mess into a smooth ball. It's science at its best!



### My Favorite Play Dough!

- 2 cups flour
- 1 cup salt
- 1 cup of boiling water
- 2 tablespoons cooking oil
- 4 teaspoons cream of tartar
- Scent (oil of peppermint, lemon, orange, etc.)

### Jell-O Play Dough

- 1 package Jell-O (regular or sugar free)
- 1 cup flour
- 1 cup water
- 1/4 cup salt
- 2 tablespoons oil
- 1 tablespoon cream of tartar



**Mix all dry ingredients.** Add boiling water and oil. Mix well. Knead until smooth. The secret to this dough is kneading. Kneading, kneading, kneading.

**Mix all ingredients.** Cook over low heat stirring frequently. When the dough starts to gather into a ball and doesn't stick to your fingers (5-7 minutes), cool a little and knead.

### Edible Frosting Play Dough

This dough is safe to eat, but since it's pure sugar you won't want your children to!

- 2 3/4 cups of powdered sugar
- 1 can whipped vanilla frosting

**Mix** frosting and sugar together in a large bowl. Mix with a spoon as long as you can. When it gets too difficult to stir, turn out dough and knead with your hands. It should form a beautiful dough ball the same consistency. Add food coloring as desired. This dough should last 3 or 4 days in a Ziploc bag, but keep an eye on it for mold since we are using food ingredients here.



### CFCE Program

The CFCE Program is funded by a grant from the MA Department of Early Education and Care. It is managed by Community Teamwork





# Homemade Play Dough

## STEM Activity

### Shaving Cream Dough

**Fair warning this dough is messy!**

- 1/2 cup shaving cream
- 1/2 cup corn starch
- Food coloring
- Large cleanable surface.



You can make this dough right on the table or in a bowl. You will need equal amounts of shaving cream and corn starch. Squeeze and knead until the mixture becomes a dough. If it's too sticky add more corn starch; if it's too dry add more shaving cream. It will take about 5 minutes to turn mixture into a workable dough. Add a few drops of food coloring if you want.

**Break out your rolling pins and cookie cutters for hours of fun.**



---

### CFCE Program

The CFCE Program is funded by a grant from the MA Department of Early Education and Care. It is managed by Community Teamwork

