

Texture Monsters

Objective: Create a monster from a clay slab and add various textures.

Grade Level		Medium	Making Connections	Elements & Principles	National Standards
K-2	3-5		Literacy	Texture Pattern	VA:Cr2.1
MS	HS				VA:Cr2.2



Materials

- Clay
- Clay Tools
- Texture Plates
- 12"x18" Black Construction Paper
- Texture Stamps
- Paint or Glaze

Introductory Activities

- Read *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak or watch a clip from the movie.
- Have students feel and identify different types of textures.
- Create texture rubbings.
- Talk about how line and pattern can create implied texture.

1 Sketch and Plan

Have students sketch out a basic monster shape. The monster should feature at least five patterns that will become textures when made out of clay. Encourage students to keep limbs thick so they do not break when the clay is bone dry.

2 Create Slab Base

Have students create the basic shape of their monsters out of a clay slab. They can freehand draw their monster onto their slab or use their sketch as a template. Have students use needle tools to carefully cut out their shapes. This is a perfect time to talk about art room safety. Have students use texture stamps or texture plates to create some textures during this step.

3 Add Details and Color

Students should finish their monsters by carving in a few more textures and adding facial features and any other details they feel they need to complete their pieces. These could include fangs, horns, or other imaginary details. After firing, add color with glaze or paint.



Insider Tips

- Make sure students add their names to their slabs before turning them over to add their textures.
- Encourage students to emphasize facial features so they can be easily identified.