

# ArtStream

Written Instructional Guide



# “Modeling a Bird, Nest, and Eggs with Homemade Modeling Dough”

*“For Grades K-2 Students”*

With Teaching Artist Nicole Hummel

## **Lesson 4:** “Sculpting Bird Eggs in the Nest”

# Materials

## *Materials:*

- o Required
  - Clean surface
  - Modeling dough from Lesson 1 (or store bought dough in different colors)
  - A hard moveable surface to keep the sculpture on (a piece of cardboard, a cutting board or a plate)
  - Sculpture from Last Lesson
- o Recommended
  - popsicle stick
  - toothpick



# Introduction

- Welcome
- I'm Nicole Marie Hummel, I'm a ceramic artist based in Eugene
- We are continuing our exploration of **birds**. As we have been seeing, there are many types of birds and of course many different types of nests. Last lesson we sculpted a nest out of clay and found materials.
- Our focus today is on the eggs, because after all, a bird creates a nest to raise its young!
- First, we are going to take a moment of mindfulness so that we can be fully engaged in this process of making clay!

# Mindfulness Exercise

- Take a deep breath, put your hand on your heart, notice what it feels like
- Now see if you can count 2 in, and a count of four out, making your exhale longer
- Now try in for 4, out for 6
- This can be helpful to calm your mind and your body if you are anxious or overwhelmed!

# Step 1: Organize Materials

- Begin by organizing our materials
- Sort out the colors of modeling dough, set tools together
- Sculpture from previous lesson stored safely on the board (bird and nest)

## Step 2: Set Up Work Space

- **Instructions**

- Once ingredients have been organized , move them to the edge of the “work space”. The work space can be a blank piece of paper, or a clean, flat surface
- Bird and Nest at the center of workspace on the board

[Insert photo of first directive]

## Step 3: Sculpting Eggs

- Eggs come in all shapes and sizes depending on the type of bird - a hummingbird's egg is as small as a jelly bean, and an ostrich egg is bigger than a can of soda!
- When a bird has found a mate, it can lay fertile eggs that will grow into baby birds.
- Usually birds lay and sit on a couple eggs, so we are going to sculpt 2 or 3

### INSTRUCTIONS

- sculpt 1 egg
- sculpt another egg
- smooth out and focus on detail of form



# Step 4: Putting it All Together!

- We are going to put all of these sculptures together!
- After laying eggs, the parent bird has to sit on the eggs often to keep them warm so that the tiny little birds inside can continue to grow.
- Before the bird eggs hatch, often the parent has to go get food for the little birds!
- We are going to act this all out with our sculptures!

## INSTRUCTIONS

- gently place eggs in nest
- mama bird sit on top of the eggs
- she goes away to get food and comes back



# Closing Reflection

- Take a moment to sit back, close your eyes, and remember the process of doing this. What was your favorite part? How did it feel to crumple up the plant at the end? Take a deep breath together.
- Thank students for tuning in and participating
- Directive: Keep exploring birds! Maybe you can even see some real ones near where you live? Feel free to use the modeling dough to sculpt these different birds that you see!

Thanks so much for joining me on this journey!

# Thank you!

- Keep creating!