

# Celebrate Youth Arts Month: Great Recipes for Home-made Paints, Silly Putty & More!

## Paint Recipes

### Cornstarch Finger paint

- 3 tbsps. sugar
- 1/2 cup cornstarch
- 2 cups cold water
- food coloring
- soap flakes or liquid dishwashing soap

Mix sugar and cornstarch in medium saucepan over low heat. Add cold water and stir until mixture is thick. Remove from heat. Divide into four or five portions (in muffin tins or cups). Add a drop or two of food coloring to each portion and a pinch of soap flakes or soap. Stir and let cool. Store in airtight container.

### Face Paint

- 1 tsp. cornstarch
- 1/2 tsp. water
- 1/2 tsp. cold cream
- food coloring

Stir together starch and cold cream until well blended. Add water and stir. Add food coloring. Using a small brush paint designs on child's face. Remove with soap and water. Store in airtight container.

## Glue/Paste Recipes

### Paper Mache Paste

- 1 cup water
- 1/4 cup flour
- 5 cups lightly boiling water

Mix flour into one cup water until mixture is thin and runny, stir into boiling water. Gently boil and stir for 3 minutes. Cool before using. (Use with newspaper/newsprint strips for paper mache).

## Glue

3/4 cup water  
2 tbsps. corn syrup  
1 tsp. white vinegar  
1/2 cup cornstarch  
3/4 cup cold water

Mix water, syrup and vinegar in small saucepan. Bring to a rolling boil. In small bowl, mix cornstarch and cold water. Add this mixture slowly to water, syrup and vinegar mixture. Stir constantly. Let stand overnight before using.

## Play Dough Recipes

### Creative Dough

1 cup flour  
2 tsps. cream of tartar  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1 cup water  
1 tbsps. vegetable oil  
1 tsp. vanilla (optional)  
about 15 drops of food coloring in color of your choice

Cook all ingredients in a medium saucepan, over medium heat, stirring vigorously until mixture forms a ball (about 4 minutes). Remove from pan and let cool (about five minutes). Knead briefly. Store in airtight container in refrigerator. *\*Use half the recipe to make two different colors!*

### Colored Play Dough

1 cup flour  
1 tbsp. vegetable oil  
1 cup water  
1/2 cup salt  
2 tsps. cream of tartar  
food coloring

Mix all ingredients in saucepan. Heat, stirring constantly until ball forms. Knead until smooth. Store in airtight container.

### Salt Play Dough

1 cup salt  
1 cup water  
1/2 cup flour

Mix ingredients and cook over medium heat. Remove from heat when thick and rubbery. As mixture cools, knead in enough flour to make workable dough. Store in airtight container.

### Peanut Butter Play Dough Great for younger children!

18 oz. peanut butter  
6 tbsps. honey  
non-fat dry milk  
cocoa for flavor

Mix all ingredients, adding enough dry milk to give make dough pliable. Shape, decorate with edible treats and eat!

### Simple Play Dough

3 cups flour  
1 1/2 cups salt  
6 tsps. cream of tartar  
3 cups cool water  
3 tbsps. oil  
food coloring

Mix dry ingredients in a big cooking pot. Blend liquids together in a bowl. Combine with dry ingredients and cook over medium heat, stirring constantly. Remove from heat when dough pulls away from the sides of the pot and can be pinched without sticking (about 5 min.) Turn onto board or counter and knead until smooth play dough consistency. Store in an airtight container.

### Clay Recipes No-Bake Craft Clay

1 cup cornstarch  
1 1/4 cups cold water  
2 cups baking soda  
food coloring  
paint

Add food coloring to water before mixing ingredients. Mix all ingredients except paint in saucepan over medium heat for 4 minutes until thick (like mashed potatoes). Remove from heat, turn out onto a plate and cover with a damp cloth until cool. Knead like dough. Store in airtight container.

## Bread Clay

6 slices white bread  
6 tbsps. white glue  
1/2 tsp. detergent or 2 tsps. glycerin  
food coloring

Remove crusts from bread and knead with glue. Add either detergent or glycerin. Knead until no longer sticky. Separate into portions and add food coloring if desired. Shape and brush with equal parts of glue and water for a glossy coat. To harden dry overnight. Paint with acrylic paint. Seal with clear nail polish.

## Miscellaneous Recipes Homemade Silly Putty

2 parts white glue  
1 part liquid starch

Mix ingredients and let dry until workable. Add more glue or starch if necessary. May not work on humid days. Store in airtight container.

## Pasta Dye

1/2 cup rubbing alcohol  
food coloring

Mix alcohol and food coloring in bowl. Add small amounts of any type of pasta to liquid and gently stir. Dry on newspapers covered with wax paper.  
*\* Do not allow children to eat pasta or drink rubbing alcohol.*

## Egg Dye

1/4 tsp. food coloring  
3/4 cup hot water  
1 tbsp. vinegar

Measure liquids into a bowl. Separate into small bowls. Add food coloring to each mixture. Soak hard-boiled eggs in dye.