Art Packet #17-21 (Sculpture)

This week I am giving you some polymer clay to work with. This method of building would be considered additive sculpture because you are adding pieces together to create the final product.

**Your job is to create five silly monsters out of polymer clay**. They will be small given the amount of clay you have to work with, so keep that in mind as you create them. I would like for each monster to be different, so don’t make five identical ones. Also, each monster should have more than one color. Make its eyes a different color than its body, give it different colored spots, etc. Don’t make a green monster with green eyes, green arms, and green spots…that would be boring.

Polymer clay is easy to work with by kneading and rolling it around in your hands to soften it up. It sticks to itself, so just apply a slight bit of pressure to join pieces together. You also need to blend seams together to keep pieces joined. That means when you attach an arm or something to the body piece, the spot where the two touch creates a seam that you need to use your fingers to rub until the seam goes away. This will make it sturdier.

Polymer clay becomes hard and solid when you bake it in a regular oven at 275°F.

To bake your sculptures:

1. Preheat your oven to 275°F
2. Place all five monsters on a pan with space in-between so that they are not touching each other
3. Bake for 30 minutes
4. Remove from oven and allow to cool for about an hour before handling

I started making clay sculptures like this when I was seven years old, and now I have a collection of over 500 pieces! My first sculptures were pretty bad in comparison to what I can do now, but it just shows that practice makes perfect- so let me see what you all can do. I love working with different types of clay, so I hope you have fun trying out polymer clay too.

Examples (Don’t copy these, they are just for inspiration!)

