

# BE A YOUNG CERAMIST



## WHAT YOU NEED TO HAVE:

- IMAGINATION
- CLAY OR PLASTELINE.
- A WOODEN STICK FOR DRAWING (NOT NECESSARILY)



## DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- ★ Animals were very important also in the ancient world.
- ★ There are vases in the shape of animals kept in museums from the Etruscan World.
- ★ In the pottery production you could find series of vases in the shape of a duck, with the name "duck askos".
- ★ They are imitating models from the Greek world and were carrying liquids.

So are you ready to create your own Duck Vase and be a small ceramist? You could read the magical steps bellow, using also your incredible imagination.



# HOW TO MAKE A BIRD-SHAPED VESSEL:

1. **Step one:** We are taking one small piece of clay or plasteline and by rolling it on our hands, we make a small ball. By pressuring our thumb in the middle of the ball, we are creating a base, in which our bird will "nest".



2. **Step two:** We are using much more clay or plasteline for this step. Again, we start by rolling it on our hands, making this way a large ball. This ball will be our bird's main body, so what does it miss? Its tail, of course!





## HOW TO MAKE A BIRD-SHAPED VESSEL:

3. **Step three:** For the tail, we are going to use our thumb and pointer finger and by putting pressure on the ball, we create a small tail.



4. **Step four:** For the handle, we simply roll clay with the use of both our hands -or just one-, until we make it look like a tape... or a worm. Feel free to use your imagination here! After we are done, we stick the tape on the upper part of our body, by pressuring its ends to it.





## HOW TO MAKE A BIRD- SHAPED VESSEL:

5. **Step five:** The making of the head and neck can be a trickier thing to do. We will start by making another "worm", but this time, a fatter one. We will use it as the neck. At the end of the "worm", we will try and stick a smaller ball, that will be our head.



6. **Step six:** To make the head more real, we can always paint eyes on the plasteline with a crayon or poke them instead, with our wooden stick. Also, we can put the bird's beak. For my bird, I chose to roll a small piece of a different colored plasteline and stick it to the small head. You can pick your own way, too!





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7. **Step seven:** Let's not forget that our bird was actually a vessel. That means that in the position of its feathers, it had a small spout from which liquids were poured. To make it, we can either make a hole on the body of our bird or make a "tube" of plasteline and pressure it on the feathers of the bird.



You are ready young ceramist.  
You created your own Duck-shaped vessel!  
Congratulations!!!

