

Celebrate National PLAY-DOH® Day — September 16!



Online Activity Guide

Activity sheets 4 and 5 can be found at the end of these instructions.

Activity 4 • Play Time!

Use this game activity to build hand/eye coordination, fine motor skills, and math skills. Pair students and have them use PLAY-DOH to make three marble-size balls each. Then show students how to place a ball in one of the rings and roll or flick it toward the center target. If the ball stops in the target, the student earns the number of points shown in the ring. Provide each pair of students with a separate sheet of paper on which to keep score. Then let the fun begin! Encourage students to continue the game at home with a parent. And for an added challenge, they can try the new PLAY-DOH Launch™ Game.

Activity 5 • Inspiring Celebrations

Use this social studies activity to celebrate students' birthdays. Students shape a PLAY-DOH compound creation to place inside the gift box space, color the border, and write their birthday friend's name and their own name on the blank lines. Have students present their PLAY-DOH birthday cards to their classmate individually, describing their creation and why they thought their classmate would like it. If you take photos, you can share the event by visiting ymiclassroom.com/play-doh to upload your pictures. Extend this activity by having students use PLAY-DOH compound to inspire items for a pretend birthday party — a cake with candles, cookies, candy, ice cream, etc. Adapt this activity for special occasions, such as Mother's Day, Father's Day, the Fourth of July (our nation's birthday), and **National PLAY-DOH Day on September 16.**

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PLAY-DOH has been inspiring imaginations for years! Show us how you celebrated the day. Visit ymiclassroom.com/play-doh to upload your pictures.



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Inspiring Imaginations Play Mat

Suggested Activities

Use these ideas to turn your **Inspiring Imaginations** play mat into a “creation station” for hands-on learning.

Colors, Shapes, and Counting

- Ask students to identify the different colors they see on the mat. Write the color names on a large pad of paper. Then, color by color, have students look around the room to find examples of each color.
- Have students identify the colors in one panel, then look for those colors in other panels. Ask, “How many PLAY-DOH creations include the color blue?” Have them count. Then write the number on a large pad of paper. Once all of the colors have been identified and counted, ask, “What is the highest number — what color do we see the most on the mat? What is the lowest number — what color do we see the least on the mat?”
- Ask children to find the color yellow on the mat. Then ask which students are wearing yellow today. Continue with the rest of the colors on the mat.
- Have students find triangles on the mat. Continue with squares, circles, rectangles, etc. Then ask students to find examples of each shape in the classroom.

Themes

Note: You can find step-by-step picture directions for making all the creations shown on the play mat, and directions for many other PLAY-DOH creations, at www.hasbro.com/playdoh/en_US/creations.cfm.

Let's celebrate! Help students match the pictures in the panel with their holidays/special occasions (jack-o-lantern: Halloween; turkey: Thanksgiving; hearts: Valentine's Day; balloon: birthday). Help students recreate these items using PLAY-DOH compound, then have them shape other holiday/special occasion items.

Let's learn about animals!

Have students identify the animals in this play space and talk about where each animal lives, what it eats, etc. Help students recreate the animals using PLAY-DOH, then have them create animals that live in these habitats (i.e., arctic, ocean, forest) and other habitats (e.g., jungle, desert, wetlands). On another day, have students use PLAY-DOH to create sculptures of their pets or pets they would like to have.

Let's explore! Have students identify the smartphone and laptop in this play space, then talk about how people use these technologies. Expand this discussion to include other technologies — televisions, video games, tablet computers, GPS, etc. — and have students create these technology items using PLAY-DOH. Let students explain how the items they have created work and how they would use them. Use the robot to encourage students to create their own futuristic technology items using PLAY-DOH. Use the dinosaur in the panel to talk about science topics we can explore using technologies like smartphones and laptops. If possible, show students illustrations of real dinosaurs, and have them create a dinosaur diorama using PLAY-DOH.

Let's learn about numbers! Have students count the number of balls in each group. Then have them make their own PLAY-DOH creations and arrange them in groups of 1, 2, 3, and 4 components. Ask students to move groups together and see if they can count how many are now in each group. Then talk about which groups have the most creations and which have the least.

Let's go to school! Have students identify the school items in this play space and talk about how they use (or will use) each one at school, then have students recreate these items using PLAY-DOH. Ask students to shape other school items using PLAY-DOH — crayons, markers, erasers, a chalkboard, etc. — and explain how each one helps us learn at school.

Let's go outside! Help students match the pictures in this play space with their seasons and talk about what happens during each season — weather conditions, the natural cycle, what people do for fun during each season. Use this discussion to generate ideas for other signs of each season. Then have students use PLAY-DOH to create their own set of four seasonal items. Have students describe the items they have made and why they chose them.

