



## Pinch Pots

### About the Artist:

Sarah Fox's multi-media narratives and characters are created from embodied female experience. Stories of life, loss, love are told through hybrid creatures. The resulting collages, drawings, sculptures and animations suggest a childlike fairytale but with an undercurrent of dark symbolism. Her work has been shown throughout Texas, as well as in the Kinsey Institute (Bloomington, Indiana), Field Projects Gallery (New York, New York), Espacio Dörffi (Lanzarote, Canary Islands), Bedsetter Art Fair (Vienna, Austria), Atelierhaus Hilmsen (Hilmsen, Germany) and Casa Lu (Mexico City, Mexico).

### Project Overview:

This project serves as an introduction to sculpture and creating 3-Dimensional work for the students. We will discuss the history of Apache pottery, both the distinctive designs and colors, as well as specific vessel shapes. We will also discuss where clay comes from and places in Texas it is found naturally.

### Objectives:

- \* Students will be introduced to sculpture and pottery and basic vessel forming techniques, pinch pots and coil built pots.
- \* Students will learn the how a piece of pottery is made, from finding the clay in the earth, creating, and firing the vessel.
- \* Students will learn about patterns and create a simple pattern to put on their pot.

## **Discussion:**

- \* We will discuss the multiple uses of a piece of pottery, and how shape would change to reflect function.
- \* What is a pattern? How to create a simple pattern.
- \* The history of Apache pottery in Texas.

## **Materials:**

- \* Air Dry "Terra Cotta" Clay
- \* Pencil
- \* Paper
- \* Acrylic
- \* Wooden skewers
- \* Paint Brushes

## **Process:**

Day 1:

1. Discussion about the Apache people and the regions of Texas they lived and where their pottery was found.
2. Show different Apache vessel forms and discuss form and function in pottery.
3. Everyone gets a small ball of clay to experiment making a pinch pot.

Day 2:

1. Demonstration of pinch pottery versus coil pottery. Discussion of clay and where it comes from and how it is fired
2. Students start building the vessel form of their choice using pinch technique.
3. Vessels dry.

Day 3:

1. Discuss pattern and how to create a pattern. Discuss distinctive colors used in Apache pottery and how these colors were created from minerals in the ground. Create a pattern on a piece of paper.
2. Paint patterns onto their dried pots

\*If time allows and for faster students, create the same project using coil technique.

## **TEKS:**

Social Studies:

113.15. (B1)

Fine Art:

117.114. (A1) (A2) (B1) (B3)

Mathematics:

111.6. (B6) (B7) (B8)

## **Vocabulary:**

1. Three-Dimensional: having or appearing to have length, breadth, and depth. An object that takes up space.
2. Vessel: a hollow container, especially one used to hold liquid, such as a bowl or cask.
3. Clay: a stiff, sticky fine-grained earth, typically yellow, red, or bluish-gray in color. It can be molded when wet, and is dried and baked to make bricks, pottery, and ceramics.
4. Form: the visible three dimensional shape of an object.
5. Function: The purpose of an object.