

## --INTRO TO CLAY--

### CLAY TERMS:

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_: The all purpose clay we will be using.
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_: The term used to describe clay as it dries. During the curing process the clay will shrink
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_: Fully dried clay before it undergoes the firing process. Greenware is very delicate and brittle. If broken it cannot be repaired. Never throw out greenware – it can be softened in water, wedged, and reused.
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_: The hot oven used to fire the clay.
- 5) \_\_\_\_\_: Firing clay at a high temperatures in a kiln hardens the clay
- 6) \_\_\_\_\_: After firing the work in the kiln the clay becomes strong and durable and is called bisqueware. It can no longer be softened in water.
- 7) \_\_\_\_\_: Process of controlled slamming of the clay to expel air bubbles and prep for use.
- 8) \_\_\_\_\_: When clay is still damp but no longer flexible it is called leather hard. This is the best time to add texture and do relief carvings/sculpture.
- 9) \_\_\_\_\_: A sculptural technique. The design/image is scrapped out (or built up) from the side of a flat surface giving the impression of the foreground rising above the background.
- 10) \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_: The process by which you “glue” two pieces of clay together. Create grooves/rough up one side and use slip (watered down clay) to connect the pieces. Careful not to use too much!!
- 11) \_\_\_\_\_: In order to make a piece waterproof it must go through a second firing process after being coated with a liquid glaze. This material contains microscopic particles of glass that melt under the extreme heat of the kiln to form a glassy coating.
- 12) \_\_\_\_\_: The term used to describe the clay work after the second firing with glaze subsequently making it waterproof.

### 4 IMPORTANT THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- 1) The more you work clay the \_\_\_\_\_ it gets. Always keep it covered and moist (bring in some plastic bags to cover your work)
- 2) Clay works will explode in the kiln for 3 different reasons:
  - a) \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) \_\_\_\_\_
  - c) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) NEVER put clay down the sink – it will clog the drains and ruin the plumbing.
- 4) Repetitive exposure to clay dust can cause a disease called \_\_\_\_\_. Make sure to clean up carefully and thoroughly with damp sponges before leaving your work area.

### BUILDING TECHNIQUES:

- 1) SLAB: Roll clay out flat into a “slab” with rollers. Make sure thickness is even to ensure proper drying
- 2) COIL: Roll clay with your fingers into long thin tubes or “sausages.”
- 3) PINCH: Using your thumbs pinch out a bowl like shape in a sphere of clay.

