## Playfully preparing for school



Play is the key way children learn about themselves, others and the world they live in. It is essential to their learning, development, health, and physical, mental and social well-being – and it's FUN! Play provides the building blocks to be ready for school.



# Playdough

Playdough is great for all ages.

## Did you know?

Big kids love playdough! Playing with dough lets your child use their imagination and creativity to make whatever they like.

## **Add language**

Talk about how things are the same and different, and how we can change the playdough to make something different.

## Other development

Not all children enjoy the feel of playdough to begin with. Give your child lots of opportunities to try out playdough at their own pace and get used to the stickyness. Using tools can help.

#### **Variations**

Collect leaves and other natural things from the garden to make playdough gardens or play scenes together.

### Safety

Be careful when using boiling water to make playdough. Homemade playdough is safe! However, eating large quantities is not a good idea.



## **Making Playdough**

#### Ingredients

- 1 cup salt
- 2 cups plain flour
- · 2 tablespoons oil
- 3 teaspoons cream of tartar
- 2 cups boiling water
- colour if required

#### Method

- 1. Combine ingredients (except water) in a bowl.
- 2. Pour the boiling water and stir.
- 3. Knead lightly on table top.
- 4. This will store in an airtight container in the fridge for months.

Playgroup WA has a treasure trove of play activities for babies, toddlers and 3-5 year olds, for home and playgroup. These play activities cover a balanced diet of play across sensory, movement, language and thinking skill areas.

You can find them at www.playgroupwa.com.au/playideas or visit www.facebook.com/playgroupwa

