



Making Things With Clay



Where does clay come from? Soil is formed in layers, one on top of another. Soils with very fine particles sometimes become sticky and clump together when they are wet. These are 'clay' based soils. Clay can range in colour. Some clays are dark brown. Some are a rich red or yellow. Some are grey and some are almost white.



People who make things out of clay are called *potters*. Objects like plates, bowls, cups, jars and jugs have been made by potters since ancient times. These objects are referred to as *pottery*.





Pottery can be made on a potter's wheel. The clay is shaped by the potter's hands as the wheel turns.





Clay can also be shaped by hand to make pottery and sculptures.



Pottery pieces are often sealed with a glaze so that they can hold food and liquids. Sometimes they are decorated with colourful glazes.

