

Salt Dough Cookies

Book: cookie kindness

Oh no! One cookie is not like the rest! This book is full of rhyming text, colorful art, and opens the door to discussion about diversity and inclusion. Read this book any time of the year. You can make these to be cookies for pretend play or turn them into ornaments for the holidays!

Supplies:

- **Flour:** These salt dough ornaments start with four cups of all-purpose flour.
- **Salt:** Salt absorbs the water and helps preserve the ornaments for years to come. Use table salt for this recipe.
- **Water:** Warm water helps the dough come together.

Directions:

1. Gather all your ingredients, and preheat the oven to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C).
2. Whisk together flour and salt in a mixing bowl until well combined. Gradually stir in water, about 1/2 cup at a time, until a dough forms. When it gets too difficult to stir with a spoon, use your hands to mix it.
3. Transfer dough to a floured work surface and knead until soft and pliable.
4. Roll out to a thickness of 1/8 inch; cut desired shapes with cookie cutters.
5. Transfer dough shapes to ungreased cookie sheets; use a toothpick to make a hole in each ornament.
6. Bake in the preheated oven until hard, about 1 hour, switching racks halfway through.
7. Remove from the oven and let cool to room temperature. Decorate as desired with acrylic paint and craft varnish to preserve. Thread a string through each hole.

Discussion Questions:

- Why is it important to use correct measurements? What do the ingredients feel like?
- How would it taste? What does it smell like? How does it feel?

Modifications for multi ages: You can make the ornaments ahead of time and let them decorate.

Early Learning Standards (may meet other standards not listed):

M4.1 Understanding of spatial relationships
M4.2: Exhibit ability to identify, describe, analyze, compare, and create shapes
APL2.1: Demonstrate development of flexible thinking skills during play

