

# Culture Street



## Coil Pot Workshop Led By An Artist

Watch artist Mike Eden demonstrate how to make a clay coil pot and see a whole class at work in response on **Culture Street** [www.culturestreet.org.uk/workshops](http://www.culturestreet.org.uk/workshops).

As well as class-friendly, step-by-step video clips for your pupils, you'll find comprehensive hints and tips to help you replicate this kiln-free project in school. Why not photograph the results and email them to us to share on Culture Street?

[info@culturestreet.org.uk](mailto:info@culturestreet.org.uk)

## Coil Pot Workshop Led By An Artist

<http://www.culturestreet.org.uk/workshops/>



**Step 1**  
**Cut clay**  
Using wire to cut the clay.



**Step 2**  
**Make ball**  
Using the flat of the hand to make a ball of clay.



**Step 3**  
**Squeeze**  
Squeezing and turning to make the base of the pot.



**Step 4**  
**Coils**  
Rolling a coil using the hands from finger ends to wrists.



**Step 5**  
**Joining part one**  
Adding a new coil; cutting.



**Step 6**  
**Joining part two**  
Methodically joining the coil to the rest of the pot.



**Step 7**  
**Smoothing**  
Smoothing with a plastic card.



**Step 8**  
**Decoration**  
Decorating with stamps.



**Step 9**  
**End product**  
Talking about the finish product.

## Suggested Classroom Activity

### KS2 Art

#### Learning Objectives Resources

National Curriculum: Primary Art. Pupils should be taught: to increase their proficiency in the handling of different materials

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Learning Objectives

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1. identify the materials used in the production of earthenware pottery
2. identify techniques used in producing clay forms
3. create a simple pot using the techniques outlined on the site.
4. decorating that form
5. realise that there are contemporary artists who create art as a living....understand the motivations behind the choice of art as a career
6. to review what they and others have done, say what they think and feel about it and what they might change

The nine films show the key stages of a clay coil pot workshop which was delivered on one day by artist Mike Eden with a group of Year 6 pupils. Watch the clips and replicate the stages to produce simple or more complicated forms. If the workshop is not completed in one session the clay needs to be covered by plastic to prevent it drying out and becoming unworkable. Allowing the clay to dry slightly can help the final polishing and tidying up of the pots.

The materials used is real clay, either terracotta or grey earthenware clay is fine. To make a permanent end product from this workshop the clay needs to thoroughly dry and be fired in a kiln. However we think the workshop works just as well using photography to record the finished pots. We are always keen to showcase those images in the Culture Street gallery so please send them to us

## Development Activity

Make a slip-decoated plate using our interactive activity Slipdecorator. This activity shows liquid clay being chemically changed in a virtual kiln to reveal the pottery colours. You can decorate the plates using, sponge, brushes, stamps and scraffitto tools but you can not undo. The virtual kiln takes 10 seconds to fire a similar real kiln would take 3 days to get up to temperature and down to a level safe to open.

## Resources

### Clay workshop kit

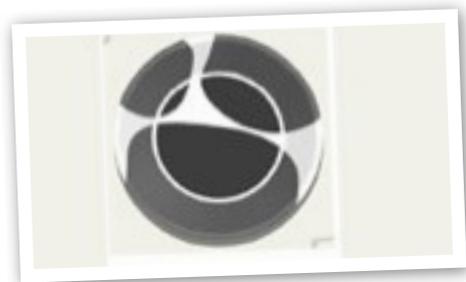
We now supply a kit that has all you need to deliver the clay workshop to a whole class. It includes a bag of clay, rolling pin, clay cutter and all the tools you will need to successfully replicate the activity in the videos.

This kit includes real clay which to preserve permanently needs to be fired in a kiln. The workshop does not depend on access to a kiln and we envisage that the end product is the group photographed with their work. Go to our shop to buy this kit

<http://www.culturestreet.org.uk/shop/>

[www.culturestreet.org.uk](http://www.culturestreet.org.uk)

## More clay on Culture Street



Mike Eden started out using all the traditional pottery techniques, including the potter's wheel. But his work is not as traditional as you might think and his ideas will surprise you.

<http://www.culturestreet.org.uk/artstreet/artist.php?id=13>

Your class can turn designer with our online Slipdecorator activity, including a virtual kiln! They can create their own designs on Slipdecorator and then 'fire' them, and print out the finished products.

<http://www.culturestreet.org.uk/activities/slipdecorator/>