

## 9. Clay 101 – clay vases, tea lights and cups made from slab

### **How to avoid disaster**

**P.S. This is not a lesson plan. Please refer to the lesson plan for specific details.**

# Prepare, prepare, prepare.

- Each child will need a “form” depending on the project – kitchen towel holder, tin can etc.
- Each form **MUST** be wrapped in newspaper to stop the clay from slipping.

# Making the vase

- Have kids roll out slab as per “clay 101 – basic slab projects”.
- Be mindful of rolling slab into more of a rectangle than a square.
- Cut a straight edge on one end of the slab using a baton as a guide.
- From the straight edge, roll the clay around the vase and mark the point just above where the is fully covered.
- Trim the sides using the baton as a guide. These will be your top and bottom. Make sure the height is not much longer than the form.
- If you are making cutouts do this now making sure you leave plenty of space between the shapes you cut.
- Roll clay around the form so it over laps slightly and isn't tight.
- Blend the 2 edges together using a little water.
- Remove the form and blend the join on the inside.
- Reinsert the form.
- Use a spare piece of slab for the base.
- Put the tube with the clay around it, upright on slab.
- Mark a circle the same size as the tube PLUS the clay around it.
- Cut out the circle and mark name on the side which will be the very bottom of the vase. Before attaching make sure the form can be removed easily and reinsert.
- Using score and slip attach the base.
- Embellish however you want to.
- The same technique applies to the tea light or a cup.