

Instructions for making mushrooms!



Activity Time: Up to 1.5hrs

45 mins to create a couple of mushroom types

30 mins to cook in oven

10 mins to glue wood mushrooms to wood

You will need:

Polymer clay - roughly 1/4 of a fimo block per colour per child

(you can use natural clay or air dry clays instead of polymer clay to make mushrooms, and use paints to provide the colours)

Pencils or other shapes for making marks into the fimo

An oven to bake the polymer clay - allow around 30mins per 5mm thickness of polymer clay at 110-130 degrees celcius.

Optional:

A selection of small branches or pieces of wood (for wood fungi)

Real or fake moss (for soil fungi)

Glue + Glue Gun

Step 1. Have a look at mushroom books, field guides or online mushroom photos and get inspiration about all the amazing types of fungi around us! What is your favourite mushroom and where do you find it? On wood? On soil? Feeding on insects!

Step 2. Select the colours of polymer clay you need to make your favourite mushroom and start creating your mushrooms!

When you have finished, place your mushrooms on a plate ready to place into the oven.

If you can, group similar sized mushrooms together separately so that you can cook the smaller ones for less time and the bigger ones longer.

Step 3.

Place your mushrooms in the oven. **Be wary of over cooking!** Fimo is usually 110 degrees celcius for 30min for something around 5mm thick, but if you have smaller, finer items this may overcook your delicate creations.

For example, the small (up to 1cm yellow button fungi were cooked for 10mins at 120 degrees celcius) So if you group your items by size, you can take the smaller items out early and leave the bigger ones in longer.

Step 4. Take your mushrooms out of the oven and let them cool completely. When cooled you may then like to glue wood fungi to some pieces of wood as shown in this photo, using wood glue (we used a glue gun).

Step 5. You can now have some fun with your mushrooms by creating mushroom gardens and take photos of your creations or give your mushroom as a gift to someone special!

