

Prior Learning: Year 1 and Year 3

- Roll a slab of even thickness
- Join clay using score and slip
- Rolling 1 small coil
- Adding texture and simple glazes

Key Skills

I can make a simple pot from clay coils

I can add shape to a pot by varying the length of the coils

I can join leather hard clay with soft clay using the score and slip method.

Key Vocabulary

knead	Preparing clay for shaping by pushing and rolling it under the palm of your hand
wedge	To knead the clay or push on it repeatedly to help remove air bubbles
Score	To make the surface of the clay rough when putting two pieces together
slip	Wet clay that is used as glue
leather hard	Clay that is losing moisture and beginning to stiffen – perfect for carving
bone dry	When the clay is as dry as it can be before firing
kiln	The type of 'oven' used throughout the firing process
fire	To turn the kiln on to heat the clay
biscuit (bisque)	Unglazed clay that has been fired
glaze	A form of liquid glass put on bisqueware to have a decorative coating or finish
coil	A long rolled piece of clay
slab	A flat piece of clay
terracotta clay	A red earthenware clay, good for hand building.

Clay Tools

Hessian



Rolling pin



Wooden spacer sticks



Rubber kidney



Metal kidney



Potter's knife



Greek Pots

Greek potters were constantly changing the shape of their famous vases and pots. A pot had to be beautiful and comfortable. If the vase, pot, or pitcher had a handle, that handle had to be easy to hold and fit comfortably into the grip of your hand. The designs on their pottery told a story. Some told stories of daily life. Others told stories of wars and heroes. All designs, whatever they were, had to represent something that people would find pleasing. Rings of geometric patterns decorated the surface of the pot which had to be familiar; a design perhaps that could be found in a temple or a fabric. Early pots featured black figures on red backgrounds but from the 5th century BC onwards, they changed to red figures on black backgrounds.

