

SCULPTURE

Have you ever made a sculpture before?

Have you ever used clay, sand, rocks, or blocks to build something?

Have you ever taken something two dimensional and made it three dimensional?



Marion Boyd Allen, "Portrait of Anna Vaughn Hyatt Huntington," 1915. Oil on canvas. Collection of the Maier Museum of Art, Randolph College, Lynchburg, VA. Purchase made possible by the Randolph-Macon Art Association, 1922.

ANNA HYATT HUNTINGTON

Anna Hyatt Huntington (1876-1973) grew up in Cambridge, Massachusetts and the Annisquam neighborhood of Gloucester. Her father was a renowned paleontologist (a scientist who studies fossils) and marine biologist, and her older sister was an artist who inspired Huntington in her artmaking. Breaking new ground for women artists, Hyatt's Joan of Arc statue in Gloucester shows us her knowledge and understanding of animals and her ability to communicate this knowledge sculpturally. Now it's your turn to create an animal sculpture using clay!

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Air dry clay
- Pencil
- Paper
- Markers and/or paint



STEP ONE

Open your package of clay and warm it up by pressing it back and forth in your hands. Once it is no longer stiff, roll it into a ball. Decide what kind of animal you would like to create. Think about how many body parts that animal has, then divide your clay into that many pieces. I chose a giraffe, so I needed to separate my clay into six pieces: one for the head, one for the body, and four for the legs. I made the piece of clay for the body the biggest because that is the biggest part of the giraffe. The next largest part is the head and neck, and the four pieces for the legs are the smallest.



STEP TWO

Begin to sculpt your animal one piece at a time. Start with the body. Look at an image of the animal you are sculpting if that helps you learn the shape of the animal's body.



STEP THREE

Next you are going to sculpt the head of your animal. Since I chose a giraffe, I made both the neck and head from the piece of clay I broke off for the head. I sculpted its ears by pinching the clay where each ear should be and then gently shaped the clay into an ear shape. Next, I attached the head to the body by pushing the clay of the neck and body into each other, using my fingers to smooth out where the two parts connected.



STEP FOUR

If your animal has legs, a fin, or a tail begin to form those next. Once you have them formed gently press them into where they belong on the body of your animal.



STEP FIVE

Begin to add details. I added a tail and the two-small antler-like bumps on the top of my giraffe's head. I then added its eyes. If you need more clay for details, carefully pull clay from areas where you may have too much (I pulled some extra clay from my giraffe's body to make its eyes). Use your fingers to smooth out the clay so all the body pieces are attached well.



STEP SIX

Use a pencil to carve fine details. I carved a nose and mouth and outlines of the spots on my giraffe's body. When you are done, allow your clay to air-dry. Once it is dry you can add color using markers.



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