



# 101

## SIMPLE SCIENCE ACTIVITIES

with

**ATOMS**  
EDUCATION



## PLAYFUL PLAYDOUGH

### Equipment you will need:

- bowl
- spoons (teaspoon and tablespoon)
- measuring cup
- a jug with some warm water - usually just over a cup needed
- 2 cups of plain flour
- 1 cup of salt
- a tablespoon of oil
- 2 teaspoons of cream of tartar
- optional food colouring (gel is best)

### KEY QUESTIONS:

Always encourage your children to ask and attempt to answer their own questions. Give them time to be creative with their testing. There are no right or wrong questions and answers. Here's some suggested questions you could use to prompt your children.

- What do you think will happen when we mix these ingredients?
- How does the mixture feel?
- If we change an ingredient, what will happen?
- Why is warm water best?
- What changes in the ingredients can be observed?

**ACTIVITY TIME: 30+ MINS**

## METHOD

**ALWAYS USE QUESTIONING WITH YOUR CHILDREN THROUGHOUT AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO ANSWER FULLY.**

1. Measure the 2 cups of plain flour into the bowl.
2. Add the cup of salt and the two teaspoons of cream of tartar.
3. Mix these together.
4. Add the tablespoon of oil and mix.
5. Slowly add the warm water a bit at a time stirring until the mixture is the correct consistency for playdough. Your child may need to get their hands in to mix the dough. When its the correct consistency it won't stick to their hands.
6. Add food colouring as required by putting a tiny amount in the end of a knife onto the dough and kneading it in until the colour is even.

Making home made playdough is an excellent sensory activity for children and subsequently can be used for further play. If stored in an airtight bag or tub this playdough can last up to a week. We also use it in other activities.

### KEY VOCABULARY:

**chemistry**      **texture**      **question**  
**change**            **mixing**