

'I Love You' Hand

Age Group: 2 and up

Time Required: 15 minutes

Lectionary references: feeding 5000 people, Communion, Passover, Manna in the desert, the Kingdom of God is like yeast...

Themes: Bread, love, Father's Day, Mother's Day

You will need:

- ♦ salt dough (see *recipe, right*)
- ♦ 6-7cm length of wooden dowel
- ♦ clear varnish or spray varnish
- ♦ rolling pin
- ♦ toothpicks, plastic knife
- ♦ permanent felt pen/ marker
- ♦ *Optional:* milk to glaze, pastry brush

Directions:

This can be adapted for children of different ages: older children can do more of the cutting and handling while the very youngest children can pound the play dough and put a hand on it while an adult traces around it.

This could be made and given to Dad on Father's Day. He could use it as a paper-weight, maybe??

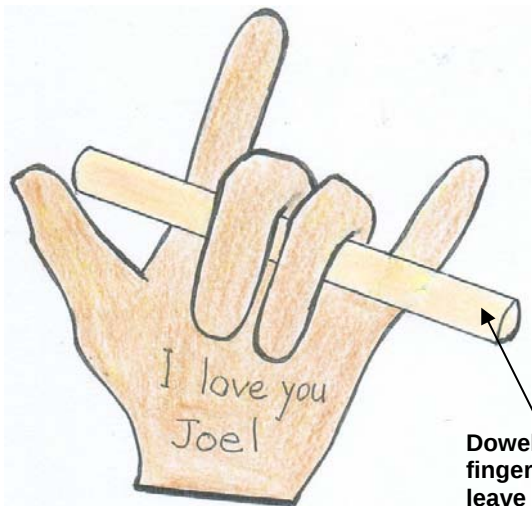
Salt dough recipe:

- ♦ 2 cups plain flour
- ♦ 1 cup salt
- ♦ 1 cup water

Don't add food colouring if you want a flesh-coloured finish.

What to do:

- ♦ Roll out a circle of salt dough large enough for the child's hand to fit on it.
- ♦ Trace around the child's hand with a toothpick.
- ♦ Cut out the hand with a plastic knife.
- ♦ Bend the middle and fourth fingers down over a wooden dowel. This is "I love you" in sign language.
- ♦ Write "I love You" and the child's name on the palm of the hand with a toothpick.
- ♦ *Optional:* Brush with milk for a brown glazed finish.
- ♦ *Optional:* Wait till the hand is baked and varnished and write on the back of the hand with permanent pen.
- ♦ Bake dough until golden.
- ♦ Remove dowel.
- ♦ Spray or paint with clear varnish.
- ♦ *Alternative:* Write "I love You" and the child's name on the back of the hand with permanent pen.



Dowel: wrap fingers over it, leave dowel in place while baking

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