

CRAFT | SOLO-LIBRARIAN FRIENDLY

AIR-DRY ANIMAL MAGNETS

AGES

Children 8+ years
Teens

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Teens make mini animals out of clay, then turn them into magnets, pins, or earrings! This program is easily adapted to any animal theme. The clay does not take long to dry for small pieces, but make it a two-part program if you will be using paintable clay (paint animals and add backings during the second session). Suggested runtime: 90–120 minutes



Image source: Shutterstock

MATERIALS AND PREPARATION

You will need:

- Air-dry clay
- Pin backs, earring backs, or magnets
- Hot glue gun and glue sticks
- Paint and paintbrushes (optional)
- Paper plates
- Sample animals or picture ideas

Give each teen a paper plate with small pieces of clay. While their animals dry, play quick games such as animal trivia or jeopardy (see Chapter 05: Wild Jeopardy for ideas).

RESOURCES

Web

Simply air-dry clay earrings tutorial: <https://bit.ly/3fZxHOp>

Middle Grade Nonfiction

Clay Lab for Kids: 52 Projects to Make, Model, and Mold with Air-Dry, Polymer, and Homemade Clay (2017) by Cassie Stephens
Modeling Clay With 3 Basic Shapes: Model More Than 40 Animals with Teardrops, Balls, and Worms (2016) by Bernadette Cuxart