

# **Baby Dragons and Creative Clay**

***With Richard Johnson, PO Box 818***

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Grades K through 8, High School and Adult

While creating a series of whimsical creatures as “baby dragons”, students learn the basics of hand-forming and joining clay. More advanced forming, joining, and building techniques are taught as the workshop continues. The more adept students will be able to make clay vessels 6” to 10” tall during their 4<sup>th</sup> session.

A ceramics kiln is needed to fire all that is produced. Time and money can be saved on glazes and a 2<sup>nd</sup> firing by dip-coating the once-fired clay-pieces in a bucket of watered down tempera or latex paint. Details can be applied with small paint brushes; and the tempera painted projects can be finalized with a clear spray enamel (applied by the teaching artist).

Class sessions are 45 to 60 minutes in length. 30 minutes are needed before and in between each class to prepare. A parent-helper or series of helpers would be valuable assistance; and a room with a sink desirable.

Tools and Materials:

10 lbs. of clay per student

1 needle tool per student

1: 18” by 18” piece of canvas or cotton cloth per student

1 pencil per student

10 plastic butter tubs with lids

10: ¼” paint brushes

6: 1 or 2 gallon plastic buckets

10 foam rubber sponges

12 studio hand towels

1 can of clear spray enamel per class



Finished classroom demonstrations by Richard Johnson



Lower Elementary Students' Baby Dragons