

# **POTTERY**

**Prepared by:**

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**Target Group:**

Any Scout

**Times Allotted:**

Five, one-hour blocks

**Pre-Requisites:**

None

**Materials Needed—Staff:**

Pottery wheels  
Kiln  
Clay  
Modeling Clay  
Colored Pencils, pens, pencils  
Reams of 8.5x11 in. paper  
Mold of fruits and/or vegetables

**Materials Needed—Scout:**

None

**Instructional Outcomes:**

Scouts will learn proper techniques in the art of Pottery. In so doing they will make several styles of pots as well as demonstrate proper safety procedure when using pottery tools, a potter's wheels, and kiln. Scouts will also demonstrate various types of knowledge with regards to the pottery industry in the US, the history of pottery, and careers in pottery

## MONDAY

### Requirement 1

*Explain to your counselor the precautions that must be followed for the safe use and operation of a potter's tools, equipment, and other materials.*

- **Discuss possible injuries and how you would treat them**

### Requirement 2

*Do the following:*

- Explain the properties and ingredients of a good clay body for the following:*
  - Making sculpture using the hand-building method.*
  - Throwing on the wheel*
- Tell how three different kinds of potter's wheels work.*

- **Go over each of these points with the scouts**
- **Demonstrate proper techniques for using the potter's wheel**

### Requirement 3

*Make two drawings of pottery forms, each on an 8 1/2-by-11-inch sheet of paper. One must be a historical pottery style. The other must be of your own design.*

- **Have various historical examples for Scouts to copy**

## TUESDAY

### Requirement 4

*Explain the meaning of the following pottery terms: bat, wedging, throwing, leather hard, bone dry, greenware, bisque, terra-cotta, grog, slip, score, earthenware, stoneware, porcelain, pyrometric cone, and glaze.*

- Discuss these terms with scouts
- Insure they know the names of tools

### Requirement 5

*Do the following. Each piece is to be painted, glazed, or otherwise decorated by you:*

- Make a slab pot, a coil pot, and a pinch pot.*
- Make a human or animal figurine or decorative sculpture.*
- Throw a functional form on a potter's wheel.*
- ~~Help an experienced adult to load and fire a kiln~~ OR describe in detail how to load and fire a kiln.*

- Discuss safety before starting project
- Review Tool names and uses
- Have Scouts start on the wheel
- Scouts should work on making Slab pots when not on the wheel

## WEDNESDAY

### Requirement 6

*Explain the scope of the ceramic industry in the United States. Tell some things made other than craft pottery.*

- Cover these points with Scouts
- Discuss safety before starting project work
- Review Tool names and uses
- Have new scouts on the wheels
- Scouts should work on making Coil pots when not on the wheel

## THURSDAY

### Requirement 7

*With your parent or guardian's permission and your counselor's approval, do ONE of the following:*

- a. ~~Visit the kiln yard at a local college or other craft school. Learn how the different kinds of kilns work, including low fire electric, gas or propane high fire, wood or salt/soda, and raku.~~*
  - b. ~~Visit a museum, art exhibit, art gallery, artists' co-op, or artist's studio that features pottery. After your visit, share with your counselor what you have learned.~~*
  - c. **Using resources from the library, magazines, the Internet (with your parent's permission), and other outlets, learn about the historical and cultural importance of pottery. Share what you discover with your counselor.***
- Using many provided resources, have Scouts share their discoveries with each other
  - Discuss and show to fire a kiln
  - Discuss safety before starting project work
  - Review Tool names and uses
  - Have new scouts on the wheels
  - Scouts should work on making a human or animal figurine or decorative sculpture when not on the wheel

## FRIDAY

### Requirement 8

*Find out about career opportunities in pottery. Pick one and find out the education, training, and experience required for this profession. Discuss this with your counselor, and explain why this profession might interest you.*

- **Using many provided resources, have Scouts share their discoveries with each other**
- **Discuss safety before starting project work**
- **Review Tool names and uses**
- **If needed, have new scouts on the wheels**
- **Scouts should work on making any projects left they haven't completed when not on the wheel**