



### Processes of clay; Violet's unicorn eggs

February 1, 2017

Today we dug into a new block of clay. Each child helped to cut square slabs using the clay wire. All of the children began working with their clay in a way that kept it as a flat piece on the table. They used their hands and rolling pins to flatten it further, or used clay tools to poke holes or make marks. After a while, Leah prompted the children to take their experience further by asking "I wonder if we could make our clay stand up?"

Violet began making her clay "stand up" by using her fingers to pinch upward each of the four edges. Next she rolled out small balls of clay and put them in a circle in the middle, which the other children at the table began counting out loud together. Violet became very excited and explained that they are unicorn eggs and that "Mommy and daddy can't keep track of all the babies they have!"



As Violet continued working, we saw that the story of her clay creation was beginning to have more and more detail. After she finished making her "unicorn egg nest" in the middle of a "pond", she began to roll out more clay balls and placed them around the edge of the pond. When asked about the nature of the balls that lined the pond...

*Violet: They are shooters so bad guys can't eat the baby eggs.*

*Leah: What are the shooters? Are they alive?*

*Violet: No, they're just circle shooters. They have little specks of eyes that no one can see, so when they see a bad guy they shoot with their eyes."*

