



Red Clay: November 7th, 2016

The children's clay experiences so far this year have been with grey clay (stoneware clay). Today, we explored the properties of a red clay called "earthenware". These two types of clay are used in the studio as well. Because one of my main intentions with clay is for the children to slowly build familiarity with the material, I thought it was important to let the children explore this new type of clay in a very simple way (just as we did when starting with the grey clay). I offered them water, to support their experimentations with texture and malleability. I also offered them flat wooden tools. **Noble** and **Jonah** picked up the wooden tools first and began making marks by poking the tool repeatedly into the clay. **Tashi** and **C.C.** were more interested in using the water first and then moving on to the wooden tools later. This experience was very simple, but the group remained engaged for quite some time. I hope to add some complexity of materials to our next experience with clay.

