

Coil Pottery from Ancient to Present

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Essential Questions

1. What are the special qualities of clay that allow it to be both sculptural and functional?

The clay can be molded into different shapes, and is very flexible and it can be shaped in any different shape. It can also be functional, once you fire it in the kiln it gets dried out and hard, and when you glaze it, it becomes water proof.

2. What knowledge and basic actions does one need to make a successful piece of creating with clay?

To make a successful clay project, someone needs to know how to wedge, and get the air bubbles out, and how to slip and score to make sure no air bubbles get trapped when you add new pieces of clay. They also need to know how thick/thin to make the clay pieces so they don't break or explode.

3. How is the kiln involved in pottery production, and how does the clay change after firing?

The kiln takes all of the moisture out of the clay and dries it out, making it hard and sturdy. The kiln fires the clay at 3,000 degrees for at least one day, bringing the clay from greenware to bisqueware.

4. How do artists and designers document the development of their artistic process and why?

They take pictures of their work in different stages of their creating process. They do this so they can learn and see the mistakes they may have made in the process and improve it for next time. Also if an artist loses their work they have the whole process and can re-make it or have proof of doing it.

Final Artwork (glazeware)



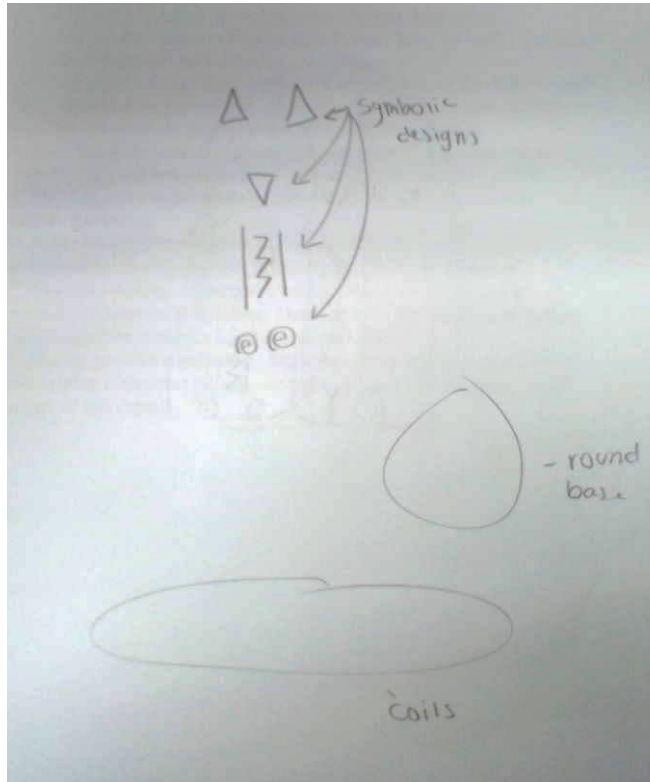
Theme and big idea:

My theme is that passing on wisdom from generations is one of the best ways to learn:

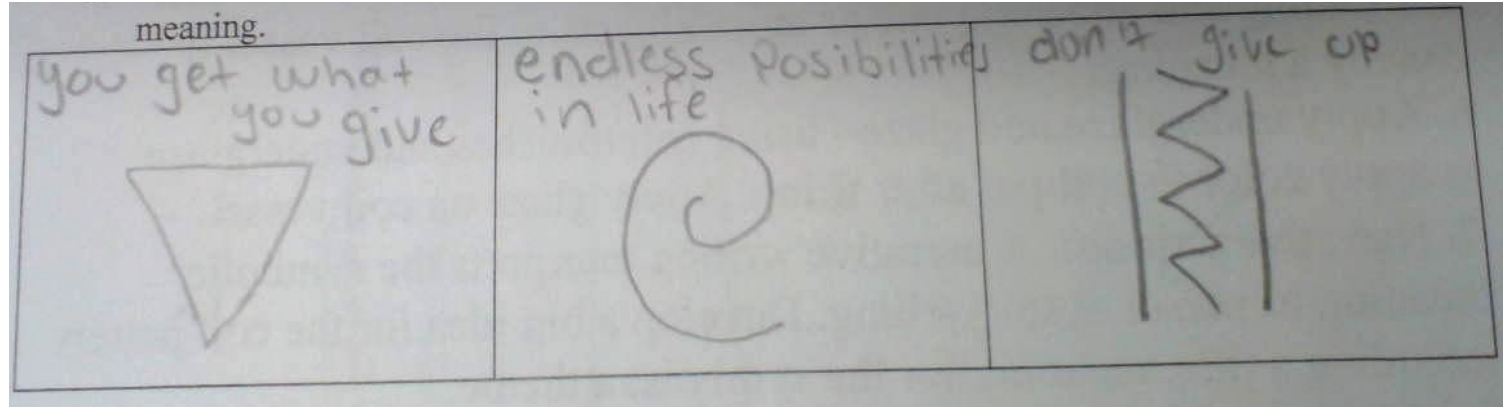
The big idea about this is that by telling stories of lessons you learned to a younger generation new wisdom is shared. This connects to my coil pot because I put an owl on the top who represents the holder of wisdom and all of the coils represent the generations who benefit from that wisdom.

Process of planning:

Drafts:



Three coil design with symbolic meaning



Objects related to the theme:

The triangle that means you get what you give, relates to the theme that by sharing knowledge you will gain knowledge too.

The swirl that represents endless possibilities, shows that life is full of so many possibilities, that you get to choose the ones you want to take.

The zig-zag and lines represents not giving up, this relates to the theme showing that if you ever want to give up on sharing what you know to keep going.

Does it have a function:

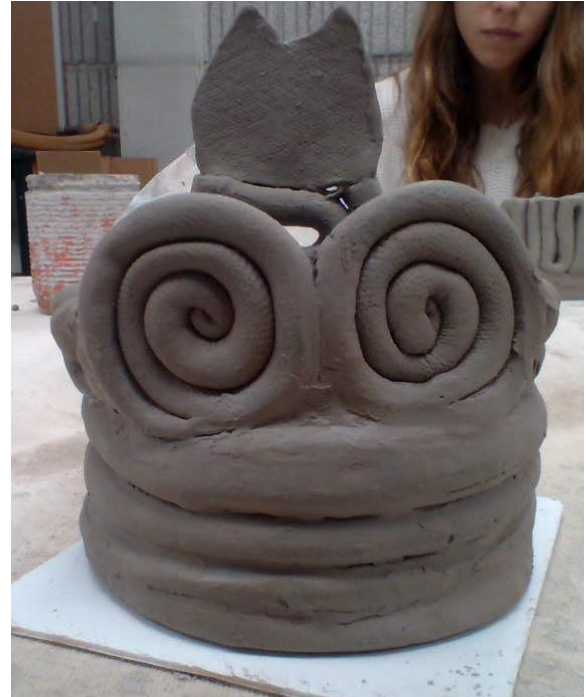
The function of my coil pot is to hold small objects.

Where will the sculpture be displayed:

The sculpture will be displayed on a shelf in my bedroom.

The process of making the sculpture

2-3 photos of **greenware** before firing:



photos of Bisqueware without underglaze



2-3 pictures of bisqueware with underglaze:

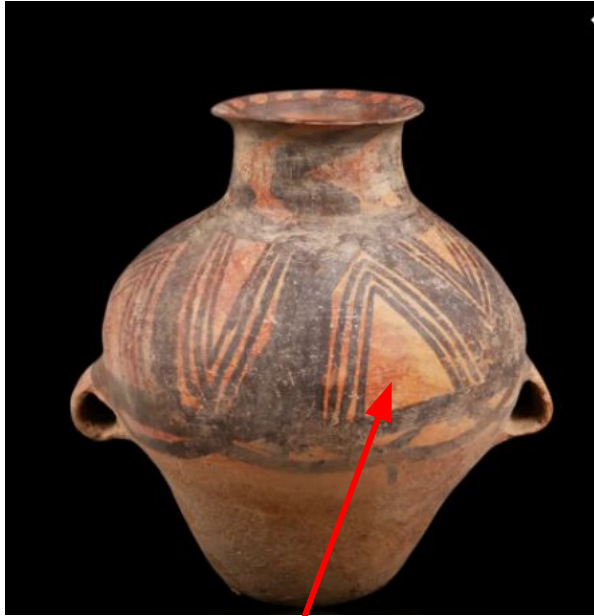


Glazeware (after firing second time):



References:

Where did you get the ideas for the coils?



Triangles



Spirals



Zig-Zag design

Do you have references for the objects?



Owl Design

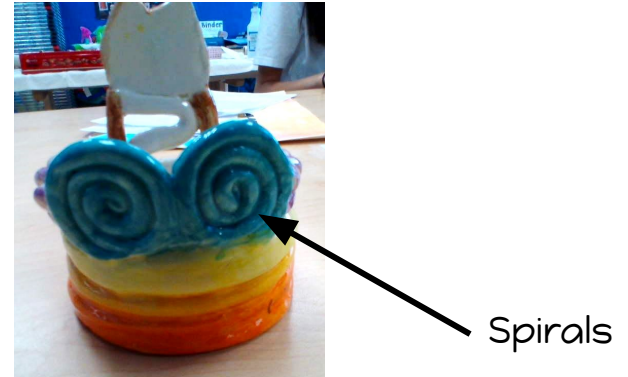
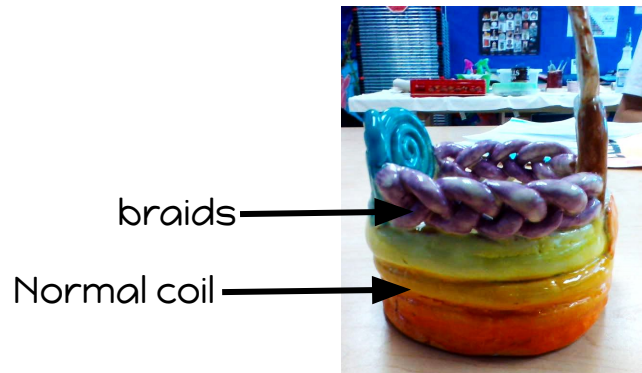
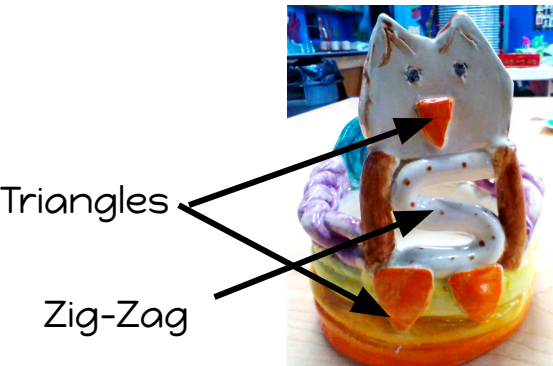


Owl
Coloring

Critique

What was good?

I did a good job making sure I had 3 types of coils (my three types of coils were a braided one, a normal coil and a spiral one). My symbolic pieces were the triangles, the zig-zag coil, and the spirals. I did a good job stabilizing the coils, with slipping and scoring, so they don't fall apart. I did a good job avoiding air bubbles by wedging my clay a lot. I made an effort to smooth the pottery clean on the inside with sandpaper and a sponge.



How can I improve?

I can improve by making sure I do three coats of the lilac color because it didn't show up very well. I can also improve on smoothing the bottom of the inside a little bit more since it is a little bit bumpier than I wanted it to be.

The lilac is kind of splotchy, and not a solid color.



Conclusion:

1. What are the new things/feelings I discovered about myself through this project?

Some new feelings and things I discovered about myself through this project was that I like working with clay because if you make a mistake it is very easy to fix it.

2. Have I tried my best effort to create a positive learning environment for everyone in this classroom?

Yes, I tried to make sure everyone had a positive learning environment. I did this by being quiet when people wanted quiet so they could concentrate, I helped by keeping the glazes organized and sharing paint palettes because there weren't enough for the whole class.

3. How do I clean up for every art class?

After every art class I made sure to put all of my materials away and I would make sure my table had been washed and dried.