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# Coil Pottery from Ancient to Present

— Gabby F • 8-05 —

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

Clay has many special qualities that make it both useful and aesthetically appealing. While using clay you can make it functional by making it into a cup to drink water or even a vase to hold flowers. By shaping the clay into a sculpture, it can add a cool design element to a home or wherever it will be kept.

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

To be successful in the production of a sculpture of clay, you need to create a plan which includes the steps of how to build a sturdy sculpture that can be functional. These steps may include slipping and scoring a piece of clay before you attach it to another one.

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

This kiln is a very important part of the pottery production process for many reasons. These may include making an object usable for things like drinking or holding things and objects. The kiln also makes the clay stronger and sturdier. If the clay is not put in the kiln, the clay would be very flimsy and not very useful.

## **How do artists and designers document the development of their artistic process and why?**

Artists and designers document the development of their artwork because it can be interesting for someone to see the process they take starting with a small piece of clay to a great masterpiece. Another reason they document their artistic process is because it can be helpful for future art projects to see the steps they took and what worked well during that process.

# Theme and Big Idea

## Theme:

My theme for this project is that you can create anything you put your mind too.

## Big Idea:

My big idea is nature which relates back to my theme because it is showing how there are always new plants and creatures in nature and that is similar to artwork because showing how combining new ideas can give you a grand masterpiece.

**Before going in the Kiln**



# After the Kiln





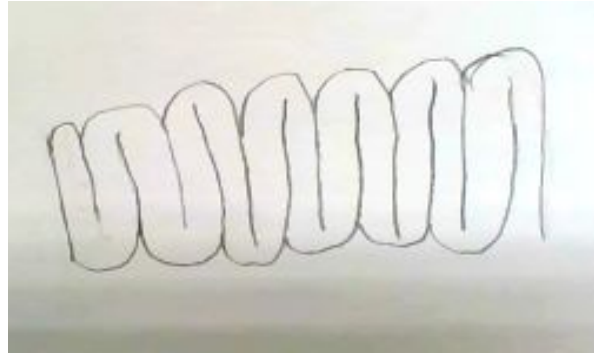
# Final Artwork



# 3 Coil designs and meaning



Life always circles back



The road goes on as life  
goes on.



Endless Possibilities

# Object related to theme

I chose a flower as my object because it relates back to my big idea of nature. The flower resembles how you can create anything and discover anything as long as you are determined and persistent.

# The function and where it will be displayed

The function of my vessel is to hold kitchen utensils such as spoons or spatulas. It will be kept in the kitchen next to the stove so it is accessible whenever you need to use something.

# The process of making the sculpture

First, I rolled out the clay and made the base. Then, I began making coils and one by one using slip and score, I stacked the coils on top of the base. After that, I made the other coils and stacked those on top of the first coils. After that I made the flower and applied that to the sculpture. After creating all of the clay, it was put in the kiln and fired for the first time. When it came out of the kiln I painted it with glaze and then put the overglaze on top before it went back into the kiln.

# Reference for coils



# Reference for object



# Critique

During this project, I thought I did a good job of staying it the same color palette and keeping a consistent theme of my colors. I also thought I did a good job of connecting my object to my theme. If we were to do this project again, I would spend more time on making sure that I put three layers of paint on each area of the sculpture. For the dark blue, it is a little sloppy and not one solid color like the dark green.



# Conclusion

While creating this project, I discovered that I can create anything I put my mind to. I have tried my best and put a lot of effort into making this sculpture the best that I could. I also feel that I tried my best to create a positive learning environment for everyone in the classroom by helping others when they need it and cleaning up after myself. At the end of class, I put away the materials that I used, help stack the chairs, and wipe down the table with a sponge.