

PUMPKIN PIE PLAYDOUGH

Bring the smell of fall into your home with this fun sensory "baking" activity for toddlers and preschoolers. Your child can squish the dough, mold it into creative shapes, and add cookie cutters or a rolling pin to make play cookies and cakes.

Supplies

- 5 cups water
- 2 1/2 cups salt
- 3 tbsp. cream of tartar
- 10 tbsp. vegetable oil
- 5 cups flour
- Food coloring or liquid watercolors
- Pumpkin Pie Spice or a blend of cinnamon, nutmeg, ginger, and cardamom

Steps

- 1 Mix everything but the food coloring together in a large pot until somewhat smooth. It will be lumpy. Not to worry, the dough will get smoother as it cooks.
- 2 Cook the dough over a low heat. Mix frequently. The water will slowly cook out of the mixture and you'll notice it starts to take on a sticky dough appearance.
- 3 Keep mixing until the edges of the dough along the side and bottom of the pan appear dry. Pinch a piece of dough. If it's not gooey, the dough is ready.
- 4 Place the dough on a counter top or large cutting board or cooking tray that can withstand a little food coloring.
- 5 Knead the warm dough until it's smooth and then divide it into the number of colors that you'd like to make. We like to divide it in half: one orange and the other white.
- 6 Flatten the ball, add a little bit of food coloring, and knead it in. Add more food coloring to get the desired shade.
- 7 Store the dough in a large Ziplock bag or sealed container. Unused, it can keep for months.