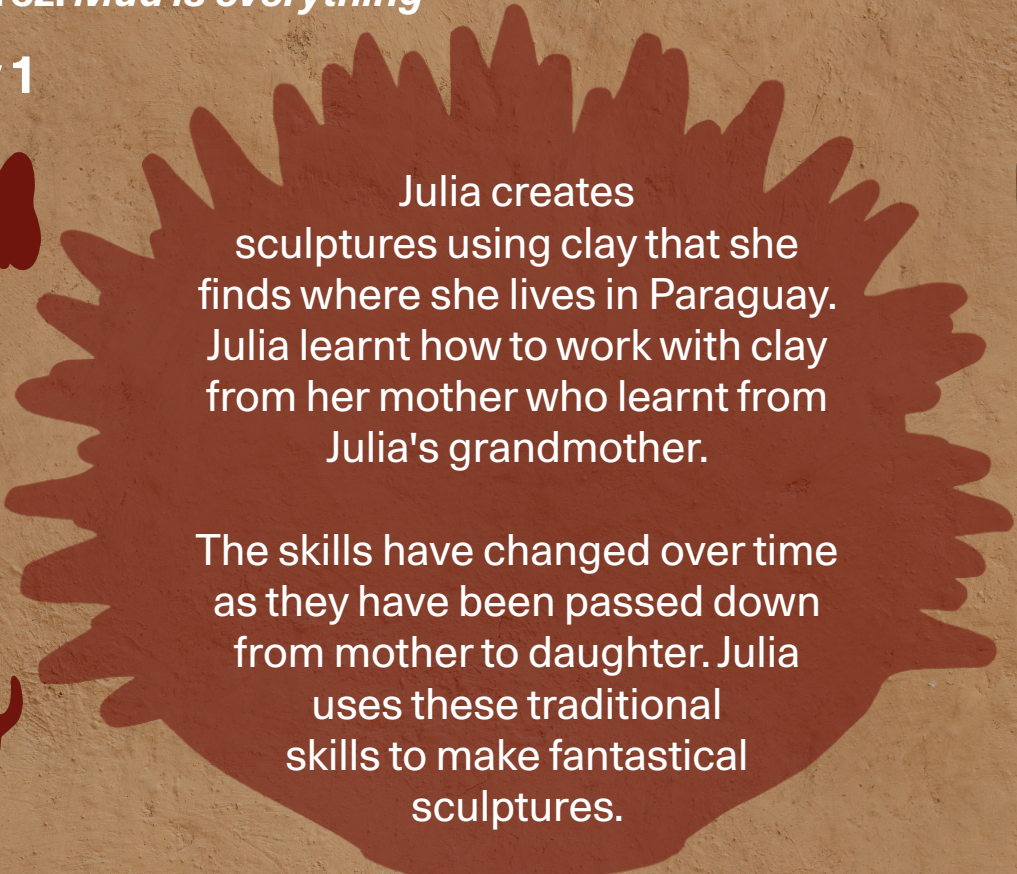


School Resource : Natural Connections

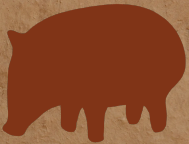
Julia Isídrez: *Mud is everything*

Gallery 1



Julia creates sculptures using clay that she finds where she lives in Paraguay. Julia learnt how to work with clay from her mother who learnt from Julia's grandmother.

The skills have changed over time as they have been passed down from mother to daughter. Julia uses these traditional skills to make fantastical sculptures.



School Resource : Natural Connections



Julia gathers clay and mixes different types of earth. To prepare it she uses traditional coil-building techniques and once the clay has dried she fires these in a wood oven using natural materials.



Image Credit: 1. Julia Isidrez shaping a ceramic work at Casa Museo Arte en Barro - Julia Isidrez and Juana Marta Rodas. Itá, Paraguay, 2025. Courtesy Gomide&Co. Photo: Baro Brizuela and Juana Barreto. 2. Julia Isidrez's ceramic smoking process, 2024. Courtesy of Gomide&Co. Photo: Thiago Gomide.

School Resource : Natural Connections



Main Activity

Work together to make miniature sculptures inspired by Julia Isídrez's artworks.

Groups: 4-5 in each group

Resources:

- 3 sets of mouldable pieces
- white display box
- log book



In your groups take one of the mouldable pieces and explore the different ways you can change the shape.

School Resource : Natural Connections



Main Activity



Step 1:

You can try warming it up by holding it in your hands to make it easier to mould.



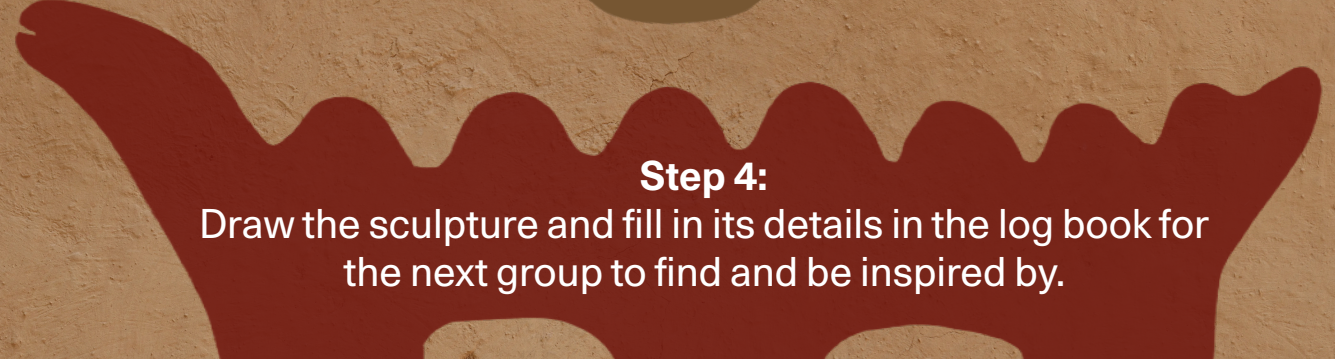
Step 2:

Try:
bending,
scrunching,
twisting,
squishing
flattening,
poking



Step 3:

Pass the sculptures around and see how your group changes them and creates something new.



Step 4:

Draw the sculpture and fill in its details in the log book for the next group to find and be inspired by.

School Resource : Natural Connections



Discussion Activity

Julia's mum, Juana Marta Rodas taught her the different clay skills traditional in the Guaraní Indigenous community.

Did you learn from
someone else in your
group whilst you
were making?

What did they teach
you?

Can you think and
share another time
you learnt something
new?

Maybe from someone
in your family, a friend
or at school.

What did they teach
you?

What could
you now teach
someone else?

How does it feel to
share skills and
exchange skills
with others?

