



Lesson Three: Newcomb Pottery

Artistic Tile

The Roaring Twenties saw an expansion of the world economy, growing freedom for women, and new artistic styles. Newcomb Pottery bestsellers, however, continued to be romantic, using images celebrating the Deep South, such as the tonal, hazy “moon and moss” motif invented by Sadie Irvine. Designs were either painted or incised, producing a rich array of personalized, harmonious aesthetics.

In this activity, participants will create a low-relief landscape based on their Lesson 2 drawing by incising lines into a clay tile.

Video link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ox0TNf8tXOg>

Materials:

Air dry clay, cardboard, roller, tape, landscape outline, pencil, clay tools, and damp sponge

Suggested Reading:

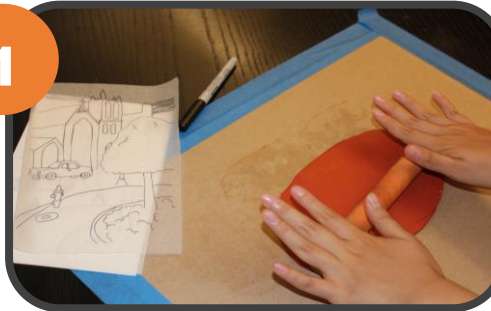
The Southern Lady: From Pedestal to Politics, 1830–1930
by Anne Firor Scott
The Awakening by Kate Chopin

For beginners or persons with less dexterity:

Go to fristkids.org for our “Texture in Art” video and “Texture Print Collage” activity. Gather flat, natural materials to press a decorative pattern into your tile.

Suggested reading: *I Could Do That: Esther Morris Gets Women the Vote* by Linda Arms White & Nancy Carpenter

1



Roll out clay onto the cardboard, forming a rectangular tile, roughly the same size as your drawing.

2



Get the tape and the landscape outline.

3



Lay the outline on top of the clay and tape it to the table.

4



With a pencil, gently trace your drawing onto the clay. TIP! Check your progress by lifting one corner.

5



Using your pencil and clay tools, gently carve out the layers of your drawing.

6



Using a damp sponge, gently smooth over rough surface areas. Let dry in a sunny and sheltered place.