



---

## Play Dough Activity Mat

---



### Materials

- One vinyl placemat of a solid, light color, per participant
- One permanent marker for every four participants
- One pre-packaged alphabet card with letters such as formed as taught by your school per participant
- Pre-packaged play dough, one container per participant
- Play dough recipe card, one per participant

### Directions

- Choose a placemat. The vinyl placemat should be solid in color without a busy pattern.
- Write your child's name on the mat using a permanent marker. Use upper and lower case letters appropriately.

### Activity

- Present the mat and play dough to your child.
- Explain that the play dough can be used on the mat only and review any additional play dough "house rules."
- Encourage your child to explore the play dough by squeezing, poking, and rolling it with his/her hands.
- Encourage your child to talk about what the play dough feels like, smells like, etc.
- Ask questions that will encourage your child to talk about what s/he is doing such as "How can you make it round? What other things can you think of that are round? What if I wanted to make an airplane...what parts does an airplane have? If we make pretend sandwiches, what do we need to make first?" etc.
- Encourage your child to "match" the letters of his/her name on the alphabet card using small pieces of play dough formed like the letters.