







# Play Dough - *It's Gooney! It's Fun!* *It's Educational!*

Working with play dough helps your child with:

 <p><b>Physical Development</b></p> <p>Shaping dough strengthens small muscles. Later this helps them hold pencils and turn the pages of a book.</p>	 <p><b>Social Development</b></p> <p>Encouraging children to talk as they play together and make up games. "Let's make a big snake!"</p>
 <p><b>Emotional Development</b></p> <p>Playing with play dough can be calming. It feels cool and smooth and allows children to use something "messy."</p>	 <p><b>Thinking Skills</b></p> <p>Making changes in the play dough shape by rolling, squeezing, or pounding helps children learn how our world works.</p>

Try these activities with your child:

**3-D Names:** Shape the letters of your names in dough. Are any of the letters the same? Whose name is longest?

**Slithering Snakes:** Roll the dough to make snakes. How long can you make it? Make lots of snakes and line them up from short to long or thick to thin.

**Create a Person:** Who is in your family? Talk about sisters, brothers, uncles and grandmothers. Your child can use dough to make someone they love. Talk about body parts such as legs, arms, a head and a body.