

BUILD A BUNYIP

The Bunyip and the Stars is part Sky Country creation story and part exciting adventure tale written by Adam Duncan, Biripi man, and illustrated by Paul Lalo. It is associated with the National Museum of Australia's immersive play space for children, the Tim and Gina Fairfax Discovery Centre.

The book is for children aged birth–6 years but students up to age 12 (Year 6) can use the book to springboard to studies across most areas of the curriculum.

In this activity, children will create their own bunyip.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Early Years Learning Framework

OUTCOME 5 Children are effective communicators

- Children engage with a range of texts and gain meaning from these texts
- Children express ideas and make meaning using a range of media

KEY LEARNING STRATEGIES

Visual resources, modelling, shared construction of ideas, hands-on activity.

DIFFERENTIATION + INCLUSION

Catering for difference: existing knowledge, learning abilities, learning styles, interests, learning needs and requirements, cultural acknowledgement, self-esteem, gender, intro/extroversion.

MATERIALS REQUIRED

- Book: *The Bunyip and the Stars*, Adam Duncan and Paul Lalo
- Air dry clay (in small chunks for little hands)
- Moulding tools
- Other materials (feathers, fabric, felt balls, leaves, sticks, seed pods, etc.)

RISKS

- Ingestion of materials
- Potential allergens

BUILD A BUNYIP CONT;

INSTRUCTIONS + PROVOCATIONS

1. Read *Bunyip and the Stars*

- a. The bunyip is a mysterious, imaginary creature. The way the bunyip looks in the book is the idea of the illustrator, Paul Lalo.
- b. What do you think a bunyip might look like? Today we're going to make our own bunyip out of clay.

2. Experiment with clay and moulding techniques. Here are a few tips:

- a. Air dry clay often needs a squash and a squeeze to warm it up and make it malleable for little hands.
- b. Roll clay into balls.
- c. Roll clay back and forth into snakes.
- d. Pinch clay to make features like ears.
- e. Pat clay to make one side flat.
- f. Tear clay in half to make one piece into two pieces.
- g. Join/smooth clay together to make two pieces into one piece.
- h. Poke clay to make holes.
- i. Curl clay to make different shapes.

3. Poke natural materials into clay to create more features for your clay bunyip

- a. Also try imprinting materials – push them against the clay and then take them away to leave a pattern.

4. Allow children to explore and play as desired

5. Leave clay to dry

6. With your class or group, examine how each bunyip is different, and the way people imagine things in different ways. Identify, discuss, and celebrate similarities and differences

