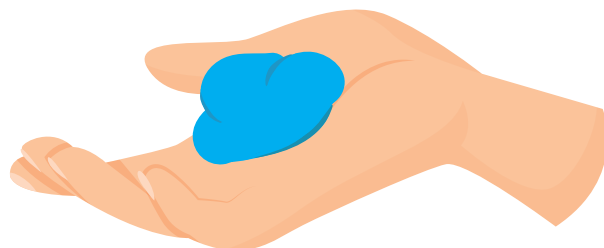


# Dough-it-Yourself Play Dough

Cut down on plastic waste and learn how to make your own play dough as part of Plastic Free July!

## Collect

- Flour
- Salt
- Water
- Food coloring
- Oil (Vegetable, olive, or canola)
- Small non-stick pan
- A stove top
- Cream of tartar (optional)



## Prepare your dough.

1. Mix together 1 cup of flour, ¼ cup of salt, optional 1 tablespoon of cream of tartar in your pan.
2. Mix a few drops of food coloring to 1 cup of water and then pour it into to the pan along with 1 tablespoon oil.
3. With an adult's help, stir over medium heat for a few minutes until the dough forms a firm, cohesive ball.
4. Put dough onto a plate and let it cool off before using.
5. Repeat the process to make as many different colors as you want.

## Play time!

Mold, shape, squeeze, smooth and crumble your dough. Engage the senses and talk about what the dough feels like and looks like. You may even want to add some old cookie cutters, muffin tin or a rolling pin. Use your tools to create whatever you imagine.

## Experiment a bit.

Cream of tartar, although optional, will make your play-dough more elastic and less crumbly. Adding less cream of tartar will yield a softer dough and adding extra will yield a more firm and springy dough. Experiment with different amounts of cream of tartar to see what dough texture you like the best.

## Storage.

Store your playdough at room temperature in a glass jar or an airtight plastic container that would otherwise be recycled. When the dough eventually dries out, you can compost it. That's a win-win!

**Want to learn more about Plastic Free July? Visit [www.plasticfreejuly.org](http://www.plasticfreejuly.org) for more information on reducing plastic waste.**

