



Smart Parts

OBJECTIVE: Familiarize students with the parts of general aviation aircraft.

MATERIALS: Clay (see recipe), toothpicks, file folder labels, assorted materials for each student

WORD BANK: *ailerons, engineer, rudder, elevator, wing, cockpit, propeller, flaps, fuselage, stabilizer (horizontal and vertical), landing gear*

MANAGEMENT:

1. Have students bring in assorted materials for their plane designs (toothpicks, small sticks, Popsicle sticks, beads, spools, tin foil...).
2. Refer to the Parts of a Plane illustration, posters, and definition page to help design the models.

PROCEDURE:

1. Set up the materials and mix up the clay.
2. Allow the students to construct their own models. They must include the ten basic parts of an aircraft from the student definition page.
3. Have the students use the toothpicks and file folder labels to label the ten parts.
4. Have the students share and discuss their models.

DISCUSSION:

As a class, discuss the main parts of a plane and the function of each part.

EXTENSIONS:

1. Have the students draw a diagram of their model and label the parts.
2. Take a field trip to a local airport. Point out the ten main parts of the airplane on an actual aircraft.
3. Aside from the ten basic parts, encourage the students to include additional parts on their model.

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MATERIALS:

4 cups flour

1 cup salt

1-1/2 cups warm water

Bowl

Spoon

1. Combine flour and salt in bowl.
2. Pour in the water.
3. Mix the dough with your hands.
4. If the mixture is too wet, add flour.
5. If the clay is too crumbly, add water.

Ten Main Parts of a Plane

