

Manu Mixes Clay And Sunshine

A Guide for Teachers and Parents



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THEMES

Environment & Conservation

Social & Emotional Wellbeing

STEAM

SUB-THEMES

Traditional crafts

Livelihoods

Story Discussion Guide

- Learn about pottery as a traditional art and livelihood.
- Understand how cultural knowledge is passed down through generations.
- Appreciate the beauty and labor behind everyday handmade objects.
- Build curiosity about how things are made in different parts of the world

Lesson plan

This story can introduce children to traditional crafts, folk art, and intergenerational skill-building, highlighting pride in cultural work.

Learning Outcome

Before Reading:

- Have you ever seen someone make something with their hands?
- What do you know about pottery or clay work?
- Do you help your parents or grandparents with any tasks?

During Reading :

- What steps are involved in making a pot?
- How does Manu feel about learning from his father?
- What do the illustrations remind you of?

After Reading–

- What is something you've learned from a parent or grandparent?
- Why do you think making pots is both hard and joyful?
- What makes handmade things special?

Activities:

- Clay Craft Session: Let children shape a small pot or animal from clay or playdough.
- Folk Art Exploration: Introduce Madhubani art and have children color or design in similar style.
- My Family's Skills Chart: Children interview family members about skills/trades they know.
- Market Math: Create a role-play activity selling pots in a market and counting earnings.

Expected Outcomes

Children will build respect for cultural traditions and handmade crafts, recognize the skills behind everyday items, and feel pride in their own family's unique knowledge.

Applicable SDGs

- SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
- SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

SDG Explanation

- SDG 8 is reflected in the value and dignity of traditional livelihoods like pottery.
- SDG 12 promotes the appreciation of sustainable, handmade crafts and rural artisanship.

ABOUT ZAMASAMA

Zamasama is a nonprofit initiative that curates children's stories from diverse cultures and lived experiences around the world. It gives children a window into other communities—and a mirror that affirms their own, helping children recognize the shared humanity that connects us across differences. Through narratives that gently challenge biases and broaden worldviews, Zamasama helps children see difference not as a barrier but as a bridge. Through the power of stories, we sow the seeds of pluralism that can grow into a more harmonious world for all.