

Family Math Night Salt Dough Tessellations

For the video version of this activity with specific step-by-step instructions, visit:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xDMCbIDZ3Ao>

2 cups all-purpose flour

1 cup fine salt*

$\frac{3}{4}$ - 1 cup water

Directions: Mix flour and salt. Add water starting with $\frac{3}{4}$ cup. Knead until firm but still workable. Add water if necessary.

Makes about 15 golf ball-sized pieces - about 16 parallelograms (32 triangles) if the left-over dough is used to make more balls.

Store in a ziplock bag in refrigerator.

Tessellation Activity: Using a piece of dough the size of a golf ball, roll to a thickness of about $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Use the cardstock cookie cutter** to press into the dough cutting out the shape. Paint the shape including the sides.

Allow to air dry or bake following the directions below.

Drying:

- Air dry for 2 - 7 days depending on thickness and size of piece(s). Turn over periodically for more even drying.
- Bake at 200 degrees. Time to dry will depend on thickness of pieces. About 20 minutes for small triangle-sized pieces.

*I used Morton Iodized Salt

**Cookie cutter templates found at www.FamilyMathNight.com under the Resources tab. Follow directions on the video to make the cookie cutters.