The natural world is full of organic shapes and forms. The form of an object is an important element of art. Form allows us to explore an object in three dimensions. Like nature, art making involves the consideration and creation of different shapes and forms. Explore the natural world around you to discover even more. You may find some bold leaf patterns, interesting stick shapes, or textured rocks! Join us in exploring form by making your own artful nature reliefs out of homemade air-dry clay!

**INSTRUCTIONS**

**Step 1:** Make your clay. Mix the salt and warm water together, let cool to room temperature, then gradually add the flour. Knead until solid and smooth.

**Step 2:** Create your reliefs. Take a small clump of your clay and roll it into a ball. Flatten the ball into a disk shape. Using your nature material, press it into the clay disk to imprint its shape and form. Repeat with all the nature items you have collected.

What details or patterns can you discover in your relief that you didn’t notice in the original object?

Once you have made your reliefs, leave them to dry for 12 to 24 hours.

**Step 3:** Paint your nature reliefs.

**SUPPLIES**

- Homemade clay
- ½ cup of table salt
- ¾ cup of warm water
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- Nature items (sticks, rocks, leaves, etc.)
- Paint (optional)

To watch this process visit youtube.com/PeabodyEssexMuseum

**SHOW US!**

We want to see your creations. Share your photos online using #PEMpod or #peabodyessex

#PEMfromHome