

## Ceramics Unit Vocabulary

1. **Bisque:** Clay work that has been fired in a kiln to harden the clay.
2. **Bone Dry:** Clay in which all the moisture has dried out.
3. **Clay:** A natural, earthly material that retains its shape and hardens when fired.
4. **Firing:** The process of increasing the temperature in a kiln until desired temperature is reached, effecting a chemical change in the clay body.
5. **Greenware:** A clay work that has not been fired.
6. **Glaze:** Liquid glass that melts and bonds to clay through the heat of the kiln.
7. **Leatherhard:** The state where clay has dried enough to be handled without distorting the shape yet additions such as handles can be attached.
8. **Kiln:** An oven that can reach extreme temperatures necessary to harden clay and melt glazes.
9. **Scoring:** Scratching the surfaces of the clay that are to be connected.
10. **Slip:** A watery solution of clay that is brushed onto clay pieces, often used to adhere two or more pieces of clay together.
11. **Incise:** A technique where one cuts into clay.
12. **Impress:** A technique where one makes a mark by adding pressure.
13. **Relief:** A sculpture in which figures or forms project from a flat surface.
14. **Slab:** Large flat piece of clay formed by rolling or throwing.
15. **Texture:** Refers to how a surface feels.
16. **Wedging:** Kneading clay in order to remove air bubbles and prepare it to be used.
17. **Coil method:** Hand-rolling clay into long 'snakes' of clay.
18. **Sloyd Knife:** Special clay knife used to cut or score.
19. **Throwing Ribs:** Wooden, wedge shaped tools for smoothing.
20. **Elephant Ear Sponge:** Silk or natural sponge for soothing & moistening.
21. **Form:** form describes volume and mass, or the three dimensional aspects of objects that take up space. Forms can be viewed from many angles.