

Claymobile Vocabulary Terms

(Para definiciones en español y notas del Claymobile, por favor visítanos a: theclaystudio.org/claymobile-lesson-plans)

Term (Términos)	Definition	Claymobile Notes
Bisque Fire (Bizocochar)	The first kiln firing for a clay project.	
Bisqueware (Bizcocho)	Clay that was fired in the kiln once and does not have any glaze on it.	
Bone Dry (Seco)	The condition of unfired clay when it is as dry as possible prior to firing.	Claymobile students don't typically see their pieces at this stage since project usually dry at our studio before firings.
Ceramics (Cerámica)	Refers to the final clay project. This term can also be used to more generally describe things made of clay.	Claymobile Teaching Artist love asking students to name things made of clay. Toilets are always the most shocking ceramic item!
Clay (Arcilla)	A naturally occurring inorganic material made of small particles mixed with water. Clay is very plastic when wet and very brittle when dry, but can always return to the plastic state until it is fired in the kiln.	Claymobile uses two types of clay - Red 104 and White 105 from Standard Ceramic Supply Company.
Coil (Soga o Churro)	A long rope of clay formed by rolling clay, which can be spiraled or stacked to create a coil pot.	Sgraffito bowls are Claymobile's favorite project to make with coils.
Cold Finish (Acabado en frío)	Any finish applied to bisqueware that is not glaze or under-glaze, and does not need to be glaze fired.	A common Claymobile cold-finish is using acrylic paint on sculptural projects.
Earthenware (Loza)	Low-fire clay body that ranges from white to red when fired.	
Functional (Funcional)	Clay projects made for use rather than decoration.	Some examples include mugs, plates, and bowls.
Glaze (Esmaltes o Vidrados)	A glass-like coating, bonded to a ceramic surface by heat.	Claymobile uses Amaco's Teacher's Choice Glazes for colored glazes. For clear glaze, we have our own mix called Claymobile Clear.
Glaze Fire (Cocción del Esmalte)	Typically the second firing in a kiln for a clay project where the glaze is heated to melt, creating a glass-like coating on the clay surface.	

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Greenware (Pieza Cruda)	Pottery or sculpture that is shaped, but not yet fired in the kiln.	Most ceramic artist use this term to refer to clay projects that are still moist.
Handbuilding (Construcción Manual o Elaboración a Mano)	Various techniques using the hands to make objects out of clay, such as building with coils, rolling slabs, and creating pinch pots.	All Claymobile projects use handbuilding techniques.
High-fire (Cocción de Alta Temperatura)	Clay that is fired between cone 8 and cone 10 (2273°F - 2345°F).	
Kiln (Horno)	Special oven built of heat resistant material for firing clay projects that can go up to 2400°F depending on the clay body. For low-fire clay projects, kilns will heat up to around 1980°F.	
Leather-hard (Dureza de Cuevo)	The stage where a lot of the water has evaporated from the clay, but the clay is still soft enough to carve and attach pieces. The clay is no longer plastic at this stage.	
Low-fire (Cocción a Baja Temperatura)	Clay that is fired between cone 06 and cone 02 (1828°F - 2016°F).	All Claymobile projects are low-fire. They will fire up to cone 03 or 1987°F.
Mishima (Mishima)	A type of decoration made by inlaying a layer of underglaze, or slip, onto a scratched or textured surface. After painting over the surface, the top layer can be wiped or scraped away.	
Mold (Molde)	A form used to support clay in a specific shape while the clay is plastic.	Molds don't have to be complex. Claymobile uses paper plates and bowls as molds for many of our projects.
Once-Fire (Monococción)	A single firing of a project that was glazed prior to a bisque firing.	Most Claymobile workshop projects are once-fire projects.
Pinching (Pinch Pot) (Pellizco (Olla Aplicando la Técnica de Pellizcos))	A handbuilding technique that starts with a ball of clay, which is opened using a pinching motion to create a bowl shape.	Animal figurines are Claymobile's favorite project to make with pinch pots.

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Plastic <i>(Plástico)</i>	The stage when clay is wet and easily molded and manipulated.	
Porcelain <i>(Porcelana)</i>	A high-fire, fine-grained clay body that is white, and typically translucent when fired. Typically used for wheel throwing rather than handbuilding.	
Potter's Wheel <i>(Torno de Alfarero)</i>	A machine with a spinning disk used to shape clay, typically into round forms.	
Pug Mill <i>(Máquina Extrusora de Arcilla)</i>	A machine that mixes recycled clay back into a plastic state.	All clay that is not used during a Claymobile session returns back to our studio to be recycled in our pug mill.
Pugging <i>(Procesando la Arcilla)</i>	The mixing, blending, de-airing, and extrusion of plastic clay using a pug mill.	
Resist <i>(Resistencia)</i>	Material applied to protect a surface from something else being applied (i.e.. glaze, underglaze, or slip). Resists are often made of paper or wax.	
Score <i>(Raspar o Rayar)</i>	Scratching the clay surface where two pieces will attach using slip.	Claymobile often uses the phrase "scratching and attaching."
Sculptural <i>(Escultural)</i>	Clay projects that are not purposely designed to be functional.	Some examples include figurines, name plates, and fake food.
Sgraffito <i>(Esgrafiado)</i>	A type of decoration made by scratching through a painted surface to reveal the layer of clay underneath.	
Slab <i>(Placa o Plancha)</i>	A flat piece of clay which is typically cut into different shapes for handbuilding.	Mugs and plates are Claymobile's favorite projects to make with slabs.
Slip <i>(Barbotina)</i>	A mixture of clay and water used when attaching two pieces of clay. Slips can also be colored and used for decoration.	Claymobile often uses the phrase "scratching and attaching."
Stoneware <i>(Gres)</i>	High-fire clay body that can range from white to orange-brown when fired.	

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Template/ Stencil <i>(Plantillas)</i>	A pattern placed against clay and used as a guide for shaping (typically used on a slab).	
Terracotta <i>(Terracota)</i>	Earthenware clay body that is generally brownish-red in color.	
Underglaze <i>(Bajo Esmalte o Vidriado)</i>	A paint-like material added to clay projects underneath a layer of glaze. Without adding a glaze on top, the colors will be matte after firing in the kiln.	Claymobile uses Speedball Underglazes .
Wheel Throwing <i>(Tornear o Torneado)</i>	A piece of clay is placed on a potter's wheel which spins. Clay is shaped using compression while the wheel is in motion.	