Episode 104: “Hide and Seek” - Activity 4

Provide commercial of homemade modeling clay that is colored blue (azul), green (verde), yellow (amarillo), and red (rojo). (A recipe for homemade modeling clay is listed below.) Have your child select the color of clay to be used by requesting it with the appropriate Spanish color word. Provide ample time to explore and play with the clay. Then ask your child to create a clay ball that is small (pequeño) and a clay ball that is large (grande). Then ask your child to pick the ball that is “pequeño” and put it in the center of the table. Repeat for “grande.” Have your child choose another color clay and repeat the sequence making a “pequeño” and a “grande” clay ball. After a collection of small and large balls of clay has been made, ask your child to sort them by size (small in one pile and large in another pile). Have your child count the number of balls in each sorted pile (uno, dos, tres, cuatro) and tell the color of each of the clay balls (verde, rojo, azul, amarillo). Repeat this activity using other shapes (e.g., snake, cylinder, button, jellybean, etc.) as the child’s knowledge and interest in the activity permit.

Important Note: Your child may need some tips or demonstrations to get started on some shapes.

Homemade modeling clay recipe for adults to use:

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup salt
- 1 cup water
- few drops of peppermint extract
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 2 teaspoons cream of tartar
- various colors of food coloring

Turn the burner on medium high. Pour the oil in a pot. Coat all sides of the pot with the oil. Mix all ingredients except water in the pot with a large spoon. Add water. Turn the burner to low and cook for 3 minutes, stirring constantly. Let the mixture cool. Knead the mixture. Store in zip-locking plastic bags in the refrigerator. The mixture will last a very long time. If it gets sticky, add more flour.