

## PYOP CLAY PROJECT PLAN

# WHIMSICAL WHIPPLE BIRDS

Designer: Bailie Benson



*Create whimsical ceramic birds inspired by Judy Whipple and her “Whipple bird” concept. These creatures are all about fun and feature exaggerated beaks, quirky wings, and clever textures.*

# SUPPLY LIST

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## CLAY

- Low fire clay body of choice

## BRUSHES AND TOOLS

- Fan brush
- Liner brushes
- Toothpick
- Knife
- Water bowl
- Two thin dowel rods
- Copper wire
- Superglue
- Loop tool or plastic spoon

## GLAZES

- SC076 Cara-bein Blue
- SC018 Rosey Posey
- SC042 Butter Me Up
- SC009 Jaded
- SC016 Cotton Tail
- SC015 Tuxedo
- S2729 Citrus Splash
- CG974 Bloomin' Blue
- OS559 Azalea



# DIRECTIONS

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1. Begin with 1lb of lowfire clay. Roll clay into a ball to begin creating the body.



2. Manipulate one side of the ball into a wide, flat, curved point to represent the tail feathers by squeezing your hand around one half of the clay ball. Using your fingers, slowly pinch out a smaller point on the opposite side to create the beak. On the underside of the bird body, use your fingers to pinch two similarly sized "hills" to create the points where the legs will attach.



3. Using the knife, cut the bird body in half. Hollow out the two halves with a loop tool, plastic spoon, or your fingers. Use a toothpick to scratch and attach the two halves back together. Make a hole slightly larger than the dowel rods for the

legs in the two hills on the underside of the bird. Using a toothpick, poke holes in the top of the head to add a place to glue accent objects after firing. Allow the clay to dry and bisque fire to cone 04.



## GLAZING DIRECTIONS

1. Apply three coats of SC042 Butter Me Up to the whole piece using the fan brush, allowing the coats to dry between applications.
2. Apply three coats of SC009 Jaded to the underbelly of the birds and large ovals where the eyes will be using the script liner brush.
3. Apply three coats of SC018 Rosey Posey to the wings, tail feathers, and small feathers above the teal eye spots.
4. Using the detail liner, apply one coat of SC076 Cara-Bein Blue in accent lines on the pink feathers, linework on the belly, and beak outline
5. Using the back end of a brush, apply a dot of SC015 Tuxedo where you'd like the eyes to be. Apply two tiny dots of SC016 Cotton tail to the top of the black dots after they've dried with the point of the toothpick.
6. Using the script liner brush, apply two coats of CG974 Bloomin Blue over any of the sections with SC009 Jaded. Apply two coats of S2729 Citrus splach over any of the sections that have SC042 Butter Me Up.
7. Stilt and fire to cone 06.
8. Paint the dowel rods with OS559 Azalea and glue into the leg holes after the paint has dried. Coil copper wire around a dowel rod to create springs. Attach the copper wire springs into the holes at the top of the bird's head



### TIP:

- Use one of the dowel rods in the leg hole to help hold the piece as you glaze.

## MEET THE MASTER

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### **Judith Whipple,**

Judith (Judy) Whipple gained recognition for her unique and whimsical bird sculptures, known as “Whipple birds”. Her creations are made with wire and papier-mâché and each radiates its own sense of playfulness and imagination. She is passionate about her art and is dedicated to creating pieces that delight those that see them, particularly in person.

