

MAKE YOUR OWN "ANCIENT" OIL LAMP

- Self-hardening clay
- Bowl of water
- Vegetable oil
- Candlewick



This lamp is a replica of an original dated
Circa AD 70 to AD 135

Cut out the shapes of the lower and upper part of the lamp. Have the children roll 2 clay balls about two-three inches in diameter. Next, press down into the balls with both thumbs, flatten until it resembles the lamp shape. Put the cut-out shapes on top of the clay and trim with a nail or plastic knife. Join the upper and lower parts by pressing together and smoothing with water. Make sure there is space left to add oil later and put a wick through the front hole. The upper part could be decorated by pressing lightly with a nail or sharp pencil. Check out originals and replicas for ideas and familiar motifs.

Let the lamps dry for four days. To set up the lamps, have the children cut four-inch lengths of wick. Decide where the lamps will be placed, then fill them with vegetable oil and immerse all but the top 1/4 to 1/2 inch of the wick in the oil. Rest the dry wick on the lamp's small hole. It's finally time to light the lamps and enjoy.

