History of the Pinch Pot

Name: _____

Date: _____

Period: _____

A **pinch pot** is a simple form of hand-made pottery produced from ancient times to the present. Pottery created by the pinching method can be ornamental or functional, and has been widely employed across cultures and times.

Simple *clay* vessels such as bowls and cups of various sizes can be formed and shaped by hand using a methodical pinching process in which the clay walls are thinned by pinching them with thumb and forefinger. It is a basic pot making method often taught to young children or beginners.

The process begins with a ball of clay. Thumbs are pushed into the center, then rudimentary walls are created by pinching and turning the ball of clay until a pot or bowl is formed. Quite often these pots are pressed onto a flat surface to create the bottom, thereby creating a stable pot which will not wobble. A foot can be made by rolling coils, pressing them together, then attaching to the bottom of the pot. Pinched, compressed clay may also be used as a base for building coil pots. The base of a coil pot formed this way is less prone to cracking.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pinch_pot



PREDYNASTIC EGYPTIAN POT WITH FEET (CA. 3750 BC)

Predynastic Egyptian pot with feet (ca. 3750 BC)

People have always thought of pots as being like people in their shape – the part the pot stands on is the foot, the main part is the body, the part where the pot curves in is the shoulder, the narrow part near the top is the neck, and the very edge is the lip. But some early potters took this idea more literally than later potters. I just love this one with feet!

http://quatr.us/arts/pottery/

History of the – *page 2*

Pinch Pot

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CARDIAL WARE

CARDIAL WARE: An impressed ware of the Early Neolithic in the western Mediterranean (Sardinia, Corsica, Liguria, Provence, Spain). Soft clay was impressed with the serrated edge of the cardium (cockle) shell, from which it received its name. [cardial pottery]

http://thelanguageofarchaeology.blogspot.com/2015/04/what-is-cardial-ware.html?spref=pi



PUEBLO BOWL

For many centuries, Pueblo people have made and used a wide variety of pottery containers, including bowls, jars, cups, ladles, and canteens. Pueblo potters also produced figurines, effigy vessels to be used for religious purposes, pipes, and prayer meal bowls. The pottery was, and still is, often highly decorated and was traditionally traded throughout the region.

Traditionally, women are responsible for forming and firing the pottery vessels. Mothers and grandmothers usually teach their descendants the techniques of the craft. While women traditionally did most of the decorating, it is not uncommon for men to paint vessels made by women.

http://nativeamericannetroots.net/diary/665