No-Bake Christmas Ornaments

Once students have explored the story and traditions of Christmas, they will enjoy making clay ornaments of their favourite Christmas symbols. These ornaments are not difficult to make (no baking involved!) and make perfect classroom decorations or gifts for family members. If you do not have access to a stovetop at school, prepare the clay in advance and store it in an airtight container.

You will need:
- 1½ cups water
- 2 cups salt
- 1 cup cornstarch
- Spoon
- Cookie-cutter in shapes of Christmas symbols
- Rolling pin
- Waxed paper
- Drinking straws
- Tempera paint and paintbrushes
- Red and green ribbon
- Scissors

What to do:
1. Boil the water in a saucepan. Remove the pan from the heat and add the cornstarch and salt. Stir.
2. Put the pan back on a low heat and stir until thick.
3. Put the mixture on a large piece of waxed paper. Allow the mixture to cool.
4. Knead the mixture, then use the rolling pin to roll it out.
5. Cut shapes in the mixture with cookie-cutters.
6. Use the straw to poke a hole in the top of each ornament.
7. Let the ornaments dry for three days then paint them.
8. Slide a piece of ribbon through the hole on each ornament. Tie the ribbon and use it to hang the ornament.