

# Blossoms: “Recognizing Chemical Reactions”

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## Information about Modeling with Play dough or clay

### Materials

Play dough or clay may be used instead of LEGO bricks for the atom modeling activity in break #4.

A recipe for making play dough maybe found on this recommended website: <http://chemistry.about.com/cs/howtos/ht/koolaid dough.htm> There are many different recipes for creating colored play dough and clay online, so do not hesitate to look for other variations with different ingredients to suit your local needs.

### Overview of the Activity

After the play dough has been prepared, students can form the dough into small spheres which will represent the atoms and place each atom on a layout mat ( file provided) to check number and color for the elements.

For this, the students will use the figure as a guide “Layout Mat to Check the Model Atoms”

After this step has been completed, the students will follow steps similar to those described in the LEGO lesson:

- Students create the original molecules by placing the atoms on the reactant figure “Reactants- Play dough Atoms”
- Next, the students rearrange the same atoms into the new molecules as shown on the product figure, “Products- Play dough Atoms”.

### In preparation of the Activity

Students can work in teams. Make enough play dough for all your teams.

- Photocopy the papers for each team. The student instructions are on the papers.
- Place the papers inside plastic sleeves or covers, so that they can be saved and used again.