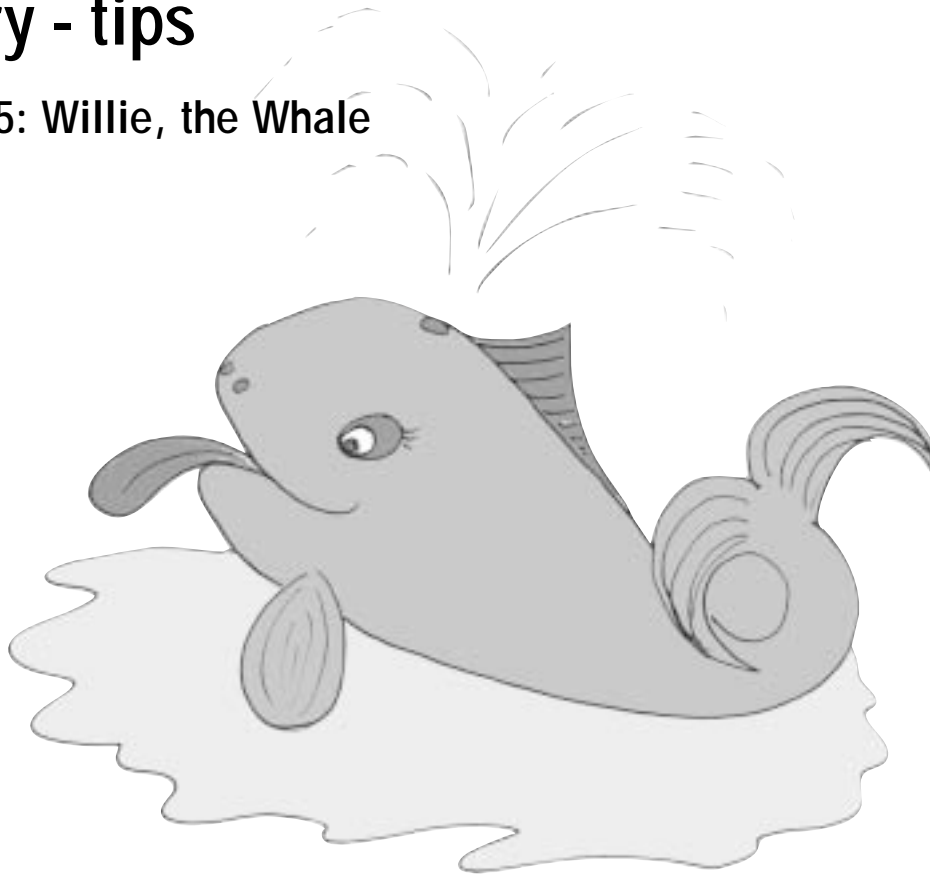


pottery - tips

Number 5: Willie, the Whale



You need:

Wire to cut
Wooden modeling tool or pencil
Pottery cutting needle or toothpick
Wire loop modeling tools

And ... clay!

Whales:
They can reach a length of 30 m and weigh often more than 140 tons. Their heart is as big as a compact car and kids could crawl through their arteries without trouble. Hardly anyone has the opportunity to see a whale in free nature. Even though our whale is just "slightly" smaller than his big brothers we can see him whenever we want to.

Give it a try and.... good luck!



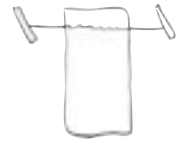
Sabine Harlan

Sabine Harlan, Professional Potter
Nabertherm

The kiln to success:
Nabertherm-Kiln top 60



① For bigger objects (more than 10 cm) we would recommend to use dead clay. The modeled objects won't break so fast. Open the bag of clay and cut a small piece of clay with the **cutting wire**. Don't forget to close the bag, because the clay will dry. Mix some clay with water so that you will get a mash: that is the glue for the clay! It's called slip. For small parts it will be enough if you dip them shortly into water before you will fix them.



② First model a big drop. It will be the body of the whale.



③ Bend the thin end up and cut it with a **knife** in the middle. Bend the ends apart and press them flat.



④ Form two smaller drops and squeeze them. Dip the pointed ends into the slip and fix them to the lower front of the body.



⑤ Form a flipper, spread some slip on the base and press it on top of the body.



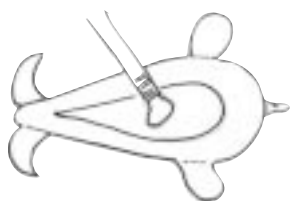
⑥ Cut a line into the lower part of the head and open the "mouth". Fix a small, flattened roll in the mouth with some slip.



⑦ Dent two holes into the forehead with a **modeling tool**, dip two smaller balls in water and put them into the holes. Dent a very small hole into each ball – and the eyes are done.



⑧ To avoid that the whale cracks during firing, hollow it out from the bottom with a **wire loop**.



⑨ Carve the structure with a **needle** and Willie is complete. Dry it for at least **2 weeks** before firing.

