

A photograph of a muddy puddle. The water is dark and murky, reflecting the surrounding environment. There are several small, bright green plants growing in the mud, some with small white flowers. The mud is dark brown and appears wet and sticky. The overall scene is a close-up of a natural, somewhat messy, outdoor environment.

Mud Glorious Mud

G. Cooke Feb 2021



Why let children play with mud?

- It's a sensory wonderland
- There are different types of mud to explore
- It's creative
- It's SO, SO much fun

1.



1. Mud Ice Cream. Children will love making their own ice creams. You only need a few utensils - a bit of dirt and some ice cream cones. You could make some paper cones.

2.



3.



2. Mud and Nature Play. Can you use some mud and some natural materials to make a mud bug?

3. Muddy River Play. Look in the recycling and see if you can find a tray to make a muddy river. Click the link for more information.



• 4. **Kitchen Utensil Mud Play.** It's simple to create a wonderful invitation to play with mud just by putting a whole bunch of kitchen utensils outside

5. **Make Cup Cakes.** Muddy cupcake play. So many ingredients to try!

6. **Muddy Wormery.** Get a little muddy by making a wormery and watch the worms dig down into their new home.

Investigate

7. **Mobile Mud Pit.** You can make a mobile mud pit and move it around the garden, so the mess doesn't all build up in one spot.

8. **Mud Bricks.** Can you make some mud bricks and build, build, build?

9. **Dirt Investigation.** Mud isn't just good to play with, it's also fun to learn about. Try some investigation tools like pipettes, magnifying glasses, and tweezers and explore the wonders of mud.



10. Are you brave enough to embrace the mud with your bare feet?



During the winter the children can use snow.



What the Children are Learning:

I am enjoying daily opportunities to participate in different kinds of energetic play, both indoors and out. **HWB 0-25a**

Explore and play with a variety of equipment. Make personal choices of activities they enjoy.

I have the freedom to discover and choose ways to create images and objects using a variety of materials. **EXA 0-02a**

Through creative play, I explore different materials and can share my reasoning for selecting materials for different purposes. **SCN 0-15a**

Mud Play is important for children to develop and practise their fine and gross motor skills: increase awareness of their senses, particularly touch; improve hand/eye coordination and develop their social and emotional skills, including taking turns and leading/following directions.

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