

CHECKLIST FOR A MUD KITCHEN

Mud kitchens don't just need mud, you could use any other materials in it, e.g. playdough, water, sand or any other item to children want to explore. These are just ideas and suggestions to be tried (not all at once!) always go with the child's interest but it's great to have ideas up your sleeve.

You don't even need to have a mud kitchen. Just a large tray outdoors will create the same affect. If you do any of these activities remember to share [@printplaylearn](#) or [#printplaylearn](#) so I can see it and share. Thanks, Michelle

Items

- mud, dirt, sand,
- petals, flowers, leaves, dried or fresh
- twigs, sticks, wood, small logs, conkers, fir cones, pine cones,
- shells, seaweed, pebbles
- stones, gravel, grit
- string, ribbon, thread, tape
- eco glitter
- ice, water, ice cubes, frozen objects
- different types of paper, tissue, shredded anything recycled - that's biodegradable

Equipment

- saucepans
- bowls
- jugs
- tongs/ scoops
- spoons/ forks
- sieves / funnels
- kitchen utensils
- stainless steel containers/ tea pot/ kitchen sets
- recycled containers e.g. old bottles, milk cartons, boxes
- access to water - outside tap or water dispenser

Water Options

- pouring, refilling
- washing
- water beads
- floating/sinking
- colours, colour mixing using food colouring/icing colour/ brusho

Mark Making

- squeezy bottles
- chalks - large or egg shaped
- tri-grip pencils, crayons, pens
- paints, range of paint brushes, large decorators brushes
- tape, masking tape, washi tape
- small spray bottle
- hole punch/ single hole punch
- scissors

Sensory Play + Malleable

- salt
- baby oil or coconut oil
- flour/ gluten free flour
- herbs, spices, scents
- rice
- playdough
- moon dough
- different grains, dried beans, cousus
- treasure - old jewellery, buttons

THEMES FOR MUD KITCHEN

Theme the mud kitchen

free play	leave it blank children need the chance to explore themselves	<input type="checkbox"/>
child choice	it's important to ask children what they would like - this is good to do after the children have experienced different types of play	<input type="checkbox"/>
cake shop	tins, candles, use loose parts for decorations, candels, decorations	<input type="checkbox"/>
cafe/tea shop	cups and saucers, bowls, plates, menus, picnic blanket	<input type="checkbox"/>
Christmas/	santa's grotto, elves workshop	<input type="checkbox"/>
Easter	eggs, egg cups, egg and spoon	<input type="checkbox"/>
food	fruits, vegetables,	<input type="checkbox"/>
garden	create a garden centre, potting area, seeds, plants, seedlings	<input type="checkbox"/>
Halloween	pretend spiders, potions, playdough, spooky small world	<input type="checkbox"/>
maths cafe	number lines, wooden numbers, shapes, dominoes, tape measures, capacity, scales	<input type="checkbox"/>
phonics	flashcards, objects, sound mats, musical instruments	<input type="checkbox"/>
potion station	using a range of liquids and water to make potions little shampoos and samples work brilliant for this	<input type="checkbox"/>
seasons	using natural objects from the seasons e.g. conkers/daffodils	<input type="checkbox"/>
stories	link to a story or non-fiction book, story stones (Gruffalo, Bear Hunt)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Valentine	hearts, ice cube trays, coloured water, eco glitter	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other ideas or objects to add

small world with peg dolls, felt, fabric	<input type="checkbox"/>
space, space objects	<input type="checkbox"/>
toy animals - farm, pets, safari, underwater	<input type="checkbox"/>
vehicles - diggers, cars, trucks, boats, planes, construction	<input type="checkbox"/>

Recipes

Playdough	1 cup of flour, 1 cup of water, 1/2 cup salt, 2 tsp creme of tartar, 2 tsp oil, saucepan, spatular	<input type="checkbox"/>
Moon dough	3 cups of flour, 1 cup of baby oil, mixing bowl, spoon (grate chalk in to add colour)	<input type="checkbox"/>

CHECK FOR ALLERGIES BEFORE USING SUGGESTED RECIPES OR IDEAS - RECIPES ARE NOT TO BE EATEN - CHILDREN SHOULD BE SUPERVISED WHILST PLAYING WITH SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES - NOT FOR UNDER 3s.