

THE MUD KITCHEN PROJECT

6th Oct 2015

Dear Parents and Carers,

In response to observations of children's interest in mixing sand and water to create "cakes" and "pies" the Early Years team will be creating an outdoor Mud Kitchen. Our new Mud Kitchen will offer a one stop shop for delicious mud pies, these will include; carrot and slug pie, mud and daisy cakes and many more all homemade by your very own children! The kitchen will include a supply of mud, grass, leaves, pebbles, real kitchen utensils, pots, pans, cake tins and much more.

How is a Mud Kitchen going to help my child learn?

The most important question with lots of answers! Learning opportunities are endless so here are a few:

- **Science** - Mixing soil, water and a range of natural materials enables children to explore and discover cause and effect. Learning how different materials behave on their own and when mixed, mashed, grinded etc.
- **Language** - Children will learn new vocabulary through various new actions such as; pouring, ladling, measuring, frothing, scooping, moulding, patting, smoothing, splashing, stirring, whisking, mixing, shredding, crushing, mashing, grinding, sieving and much more.
- **Imagination** - Will develop endless imagination through the physical process of 'doing', not only making food, but potions, perfumes, different flavoured lotions etc.
- **Enquiry** – questions will be drawn from their own discoveries, creating further exploration and predictions.



Staying clean

With **mud** there is **mess** and our children will love to get stuck into it. As a result, wellies and protective clothing i.e. waterproofs (donations would be gratefully welcome) will be worn. The children will be introduced to resources slowly and taught how and where to use them safely, they will be shown how to wash hands thoroughly and to keep mud in the specified area. Please help us by talking to your child about this at home.



We currently have very few resources for the Mud Kitchen and would be extremely grateful if you have any of following lying around at home to bring them in for us. Please drop them into school at the Early Years doors when you bring your children in:

pots and pans (no glass); bake ware; jugs; funnels; wooden spoons; metal utensils; ice-cream scoop; bowls; containers; ice cube trays; baskets; gravy boat; vinyl table cloth; colanders; whisks; twigs; jelly moulds; ladles; splash suits and anything else you think of.

Many Thanks,

The Early Years Team