

Mud (half day)

Early Years

Summary of Day

Come and dig in the mud and discover what lives there. Look for animal tracks. Use the mud to make sculptures and tree spirits.

Learning objectives

- Children will experience playing in the mud and the different textures found there
- Children will discover what lives in the mud
- Children will have the opportunity to use mud to create 3d objects
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Prior Learning

No prior learning is essential for children to take part in this day.

Example outline of the day

Approx 10 am	Arrive / Introduction to Gatton Park / Safety talk
10.15 – 10.30	Read Story of 'Stuck in the Mud'.
10.30 – 11.15	Following trail of animal track signs and stop at various points to take part in different mud related activities on the way eg. make muddy footprints, what lives in the mud, make 'tree spirits'.
11.15 – 11.45	Collect 'natural found' materials to make sculptures in mud.
11.45 - 12.00	Clean up! And read 'Mud' poem

Assessment Opportunities

Gatton Staff will assess progress throughout the day by open ended questioning and plenary session.

- Can children describe how mud looks and feels?
- Can children identify creatures living in the mud?
- Have children created a sculpture or tree spirit?

Information for the group leader

- Outdoor clothing & sturdy footwear - wellies are advised
- Please note that due to the nature of the study site, adjustments may need to be made to this programme for those visitors who use a wheelchair or have limited mobility. Please contact the Centre to discuss alternatives.
- Please note this day will go ahead in most weather conditions. However alternative bad weather activities are available at the Centre if necessary.
- Centre Risk Assessments are available for those who come on a pre visit; these may be used to write your own risk assessments in accordance with your school's requirements.

Post Visit learning opportunities

- Create a mud kitchen in your outdoor area
- Use mud to do painting or printing activities

Differentiation

- Adults to encourage participation and give support as appropriate
- Specific adjustments can be made to suit individual needs in conjunction with the class teacher.

Access

- Different learning styles considered throughout the day.
- Please inform us in advance if any of your students have limited mobility.

Adult Participation

- Adults to encourage participation and give support as appropriate during practical tasks.

Resources

- All resources for the day are provided by Gatton Park