

Mud Glorious Mud

With all the rain we've had recently, there is still plenty of mud around to have fun with. From simply splashing in muddy puddles to making your own mud kitchen, mud can provide hours of entertainment!

Mud Painting

You can simply mix mud and water to make a paste, then dip in your paintbrush and enjoy the sensory feel of painting it onto tree trunks.



Or you can go one step further to mix your own range of mud paints. Using ground up chalk or charcoal, add small amounts to pots of mud and water to make different shades. Look for sticky grey or yellow clay soils to make new colours.



Use your colours to make a painting on white card, how many different colours can you make?

Top tip: push your mud through an old sieve to make a smooth paint. Add a little washing up liquid to make it shiny!

Mud Sculptures

Squash a lump of mud into a ball, using a little water if needed. Make it into different shapes, such as a hedgehog or snail and decorate with sticks and stones. Use a yoghurt pot or baked bean tin as a mould to make mud castles.



Build a mud kitchen

Using crates, scrap wood, bricks or anything to hand, you can make a very simple mud kitchen in even the smallest garden. Add a washing up bowl, some old pots, pans, plates and cups. Using wooden spoons, spatulas and measuring jugs (as well as your imagination and plenty of mud and water) you can cook up mud pies, stone soup or leaf loaves. Pop it in a cardboard box oven to bake it until just ready! Or have a go at making a solar powered oven! NASA have good [instructions](#) for how to build one!



Mud Squelching

Walking barefoot in nature is not only a great sensory experience, it is also supposed to be very good for your health!



So take off your wellies and socks, find a patch of squelchy mud and enjoy the feeling of mud oozing through your toes!

Make a wormery

This is a good way to see how worms fertilise and mix our soil.

You will need: 1 litre bottle, soil, sand, scissors, clingfilm, leaves.



Cut the top off the bottle and fill with layers of sand and soil. Sprinkle leaves on top and add your worms. Cover the top with clingfilm and make a few air holes. Keep it damp and dark. Observe!

Surrey Wildlife Trust have a good [activity sheet](#) to show you how.