



Literacy & Language

Age 5-9

# Potions and pies

• Instructional texts



## Overview

This creative activity will help to embed the features of instructional texts in a fun way. It will encourage talk for writing and also link to many other curriculum areas.

## Resources

- Mud
- Water
- Assorted toppings such as grass, petals, pebbles, etc.
- Cups
- Sieves
- Mixing bowl
- Stick or spoon
- Flat tray or board
- Whiteboards/mini clipboards and pencils

## Activity

1. Share the example 'mud pie' recipe (below) with the pupils and demonstrate making it.
2. Allow time for some experimenting and playing with the resources to create other pies and potions.
3. Brainstorm together and encourage pupils to write down some imperative verbs on a whiteboard or clipboard that they can use in their recipes.
4. In pairs, challenge pupils to tell their recipe to their partner and see if it can be followed and created.
5. Allow the pairs to swap roles so that everyone gets to tell a recipe and follow one.

## Example 'mud pie' recipe

1. *Sieve the dirt into the mixing bowl to make sure it is smooth and free from sand, grit or stones*
2. *Gradually add a cup of water to the mud and stir.*
3. *The dirt and water should combine to make sticky black dough. Roll this into a ball.*
4. *Press the dough ball out onto a tray or board into a flattened circle.*

5. *Decorate the pie with your choice of toppings such as grass, petals, or pebbles.*
6. *Leave the pie to bake hard, preferably in the sunshine, and serve with a cup of homemade garden juice.*

## Suggested outcomes for learning and play

We understand you will tailor this activity to the learning needs of your pupils. Here are some of the learning outcomes and extension ideas that other practitioners have used this lesson idea to reach:

- To follow and understand instructional texts
- To use and identify imperative verbs

Here are some more activity ideas to help bridge the gap between the indoors and the outdoors for your pupils:

Subject area	Topic	Ideas for further exploration
Literacy and language	Instructional texts	Add time words to the recipe
		Highlight all the imperative verbs in the recipe
Music	Rhythms and sounds	Explore onomatopoeias by creating a sound or rhythm for each imperative verb
Drama	Role play	Present a cookery show and demonstrate making a muddy potion or pie
Computing	Measurements	Add accurate measurements to the recipe
Science	Materials/ states of matter	Test properties of materials. What happens when they are mixed together or heated by the sun
History	Traditions through time	Research the history and importance of potions in different periods of time



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