Mud Kitchen Rejuvenation

Overview

This activity refreshes how the mud kitchen is used, focusing on playful learning, resources, imagination and shared experiences rather than the space itself.



Activities

Set out pots, pans and spoons and invite children to start mixing mud with a little water. Water is an important part of this activity and children are encouraged to decide how much to add, noticing what happens if there is too little or too much.

Adults play alongside children; collecting and adding natural loose parts such as leaves, stones, petals and sticks to keep play open-ended and interesting.

This is scientific thinking,imaginative play, creativity.

Equipment

- Mud kitchen
- Pots, pans and spoons
- Mud and soil
- Water jugs or watering cans
- Natural loose parts (leaves, stones, petals, sticks).

Key Questions

What will happen if add more/less water?
What I could add to my mixture next?
What will happen if I mix these together?
Who my food or potion is for?
How I can change my recipe?

Learning Outcomes

Physical Development – stirring and pouring.
PSED – playing together.
Understanding the World – exploring materials.

Story ideas to link with the mud kitchen:

'Mud' by Mary Lyn Ray, celebrating the joy and possibilities of mud.
'There's a Worm at the Bottom of My Garden' by Pam Ayres.
'The Little Red Hen' – cooking, ingredients and sharing food.
'Stone Soup' – collecting ingredients and making something together.