



# Mud Kitchen for babies

<b>1</b>	<p><b>Main objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-To support babies and toddlers in exploring soil through sensorial play</li> <li>-To introduce the concept of repurposing materials</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Vocabulary – Keywords</b></p> <p>Soil, grow, compost, air, water, mineral ,organic material</p>
<b>3</b>	<p><b>Sustainability skills developed</b></p> <p>Self-awareness</p>
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Pillars of sustainability included</b></p> <p><b>Ecological:</b> Supporting very young children in developing their relationship with the natural world  <b>Social :</b> Know how human actions affect the sustainability of the planet.  <b>Economical :</b> caring and teaching very young children with the fewest materials as possible, repurposing materials</p>
<b>5</b>	<p><b>STEAM domains</b></p> <p><b>Science, math</b></p>



## 6 Methodology

The teacher installs a mud kitchen in the outdoor area. This can be an old toy kitchen or repurposed materials.



The teacher plays with it and invites babies and toddlers to join her. She models exploration and uses the correct terms when describing the soil as in, "this soil is made of minerals, organic matter, living organisms and water!"

## 7 Expected learning outcomes

The child will be able to:

Commune with nature by exploring the sensorial properties of soil.

## 8 Assessment

The teacher assesses learning through attuned interactions.





<b>9</b>	<p>Equipment and materials to be used in the learning unit (eg: tools, ingredients, etc.)</p> <p>An old toy kitchen, boxes, old pans, old wooden spoons, old trays, soil and water</p>
<b>10</b>	<p>Environment type: laboratory, kitchen, outdoor garden</p>
<b>11</b>	<p>References – sources:</p> <p><a href="https://www.twinkl.ie/teaching-wiki/benefits-of-mud-kitchen-play-in-early-years">https://www.twinkl.ie/teaching-wiki/benefits-of-mud-kitchen-play-in-early-years</a></p> <p>Authors: Dr Garret Scally, Trish McLaughlin, Orlene O’Brien, Paula Kelly, Aoife O’Dowd, Sinead MC Caffery, Eimear Scanlon, Ava Callaghan</p>

