

# ACTIVITY TIME

## Garden Stew

Carrie Gallasch and Zoë Ingram

Who loves garden stew? Join Quokkas, Tattie and Tiny Spud as they head outside for lots of fun. A pot, some sticks and petals too, it's time to make garden stew!

### Make mud pies!

#### You will need:

- You and your child (and very old clothes on!)
- outdoor area with mud, sand or dirt
- watering can and water
- old kitchen containers and spoons
- some flowers, leaves and natural items.

#### What to do:

1. Wet the mud, sand or dirt
2. Let your child touch, scoop and squeeze the mud in their hands
3. Spoon or scoop mud into containers and mix it with hands or spoons
4. Add in the natural items to your 'stew' and say what you're doing  
"I'm adding flower petals to make my pie smell nice!"
5. Clean up by splashing down with a water or a hose.

#### More ideas:

Make lots of little pies or one big pie. Use a jar of water to add flowers or herbs to make 'perfume'. Draw a picture in the mud, or make patterns using natural objects. Pretend to dig for dinosaur bones and look for fossils. As you gather more natural items look for animals and insects living in your garden or park.

#### STEM Focus

Children love being outside and especially getting messy but did you know it's incredibly important for their development to explore the natural world using all their senses. Mudpies and outdoor kitchens provide fun scientific learning opportunities with measuring, cause and effect, feeling different textures and caring for our natural world.

#### Songs to sing

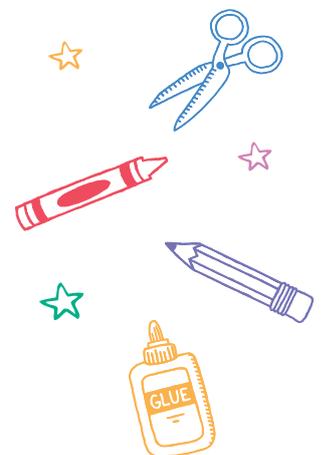
*If You're Happy and You Know it, Polly put the Kettle On, and Mud Glorious Mud!*

#### Key message:

Children learn through being engaged and doing.



**Adult supervision is required at all times when children play or are around water.**



**\*You can introduce simple Science Technology, Engineering & Maths (STEM) concepts to children aged 2+ years through every day play.**