RISK ASSESSMENT WIZARD



MUD PLAY

Safety Guide

Forest Schools

4	16	3
Key Benefits	Control Measures	Checklist Items

KEY BENEFITS

Sensory Development

Activates tactile development with squishy, messy textures.

Creative Play

Promotes creative and symbolic play in open-ended scenarios.

Immune Health

Improves immune system resilience through safe outdoor exposure.

Social Learning

Supports social learning through cooperative messy play.

KEY HAZARDS & CONTROL MEASURES

Soil Contamination

- ✔ Check mud area before use
- ✔ Cover cuts before activity
- ✔ Remove any animal droppings
- ✔ No hand-to-mouth contact

Foreign Objects

- ✔ Inspect mud area daily
- ✔ Use contained mud areas
- ✔ Remove glass, metal, debris
- ✔ Check utensils for damage

Slip Hazards

- ✔ Wellies or waterproof boots
- ✔ Bark chip surfacing nearby
- ✔ Clear walking routes
- ✔ Remind children to walk

Mud in Eyes

- ✔ Brief on keeping mud low
- ✔ First aid kit accessible
- ✔ Clean water for washing eyes
- ✔ Supervise during play

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