

Messy Play

FUNKY
KIDZ



Mess is an essential part of childhood. Living in a small urban home or a rented property – as is the case for many city dwellers – can make messy play stressful and cause it to be avoided. Also, it is easy for parents to feel that people will criticize or judge if our child is seen wearing dirty clothes, or if our homes are less than pristine and spotless. Fear of bacteria can also contribute to a degree of paranoia about dirt.

When we talk about messy play, we aren't referring to unhygienic living standards or toys strewn all over the house. We're talking about activities such as jumping in puddles, making mud pies, painting, sand play, clay molding and play dough.

Children, especially young children, need to explore their environment with all their senses. Children learn primarily through play, so combining their need to play and their need to explore often results in a mess. This can't be avoided and we would do well to remember that a degree of mess is part of life as a child and not something to become uptight about. Play that incorporates rich textural experiences allows children to express their emotions through manipulating the materials (clay, paint, sand) and refines their sense of touch. The richer the textural experiences, the richer their cognitive and language development will be – how can a nine-year-old grasp the concept of "slimy" if he has never touched anything "slimy"? They also learn about cause and effect (mixing colors, pressing too hard on your play dough sculpture) as well as size, shape and many other concepts. Messy play materials should encompass different temperatures (cold, warm, tepid), textures (rough, smooth, wet, dry), scents, appearances and locations.

However, small children see no line between “play time” and the rest of life. For an infant, every waking moment is dedicated to exploring and learning. Babies and toddlers love to make food and eating a whole body experience at times, smelling, tasting, squashing and throwing their food. While it can be inconvenient to clean up, and discouraging if you have spent time lovingly cooking a meal, this food play is a normal and important part of childhood. If mess is always discouraged, a stressful relationship can develop between parent and child as well as a future avoidance of messy play (even when it is offered), which can lead to a diminished sense of touch and potentially limit cognitive development.

Messy play isn't limited to indoor play, however. Dirt, sand, leaves and water are all great messy play materials. But what do you do when you don't have a backyard or other outdoor area to utilize? Most large cities around the world are coastal or on a major river or lake, so there are often natural waterways and beaches to explore and get messy in. National parks, state forests, fields, meadows, parks and creeks provide a range of free opportunities for play with different messy materials such as bark, sand, water, rocks, dirt, mud, shells, leaves and sticks.

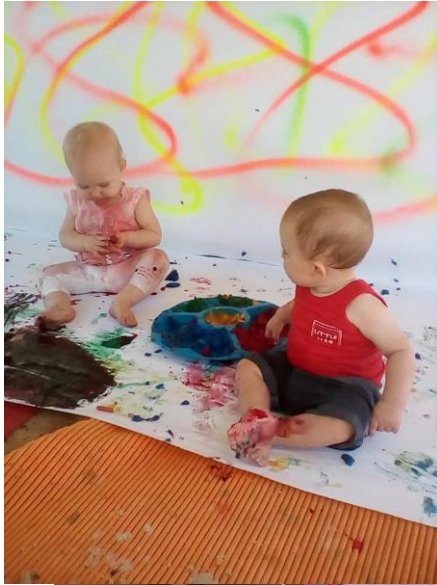
There are other ways to make messy play accessible closer to home. Think of the outdoor spaces you do have access to – a courtyard, balcony, garage or shed. Is there a way you could utilize this space for messy play such as painting, even temporarily? Could you do some container gardening, or collect natural materials from around your home?

If you still can't bear the thought of allowing your child to play with play dough or paints inside the house, cooking can be a great opportunity for textural play that isn't quite so messy. Kneading dough and moulding biscuits, bread rolls or cookies can incorporate creativity and the sensory experience, but it can never replace the full experience of messy play in all its options. Take up any opportunities you can for group messy play where you don't have to worry about the cleanup – such as **FUNKYKIDZ MESSY PLAY CLASSES**.

Nothing can replace the fun and learning of a childhood filled with messy play, but children living in urban environments need not miss out on this essential group of experiences.



What a fun year it has been! Join in the FUN!





What's happening in your area?



Date: 11th – 15th December 2017

Time: 9am – 12pm

Place: Malvern

Cost: R120 per day or R450 for the week including a snack. All materials for activities will be provided.

Age group: 8 months – 7 years

Contact: Loreshni Pillay 073 459 8890

Small Classes – 12 kids max

Transport can be arranged at a nominal fee

Bookings close on 6th of December



Day 3:

- Paint a canvas
- Treasure Hunt
- Santa's Letter
- Pine Cone Christmas Tree
- Banana Santa's
- Paint with coloured ice

An advertisement for 'Messy Play Holiday Club' by Lenasia. The top part features a banner with the text 'HOLIDAY CLUB! Messy Play' and 'Lenasia' in large letters. Below this, there are contact details: 'Sadia 076 712 1367' and 'Nazeera 079 216 2268'. The bottom part of the ad lists prices and times: 'R450 MON TO FRIDAY incl lunch/snack', 'R130 per day', 'Saturdays R50', '11:00 till 12:00', '11th to 15th', '18th to 22nd', 'weekdays R60', and '11:00 till 12:00'. The word 'PHOTOGRID' is visible at the bottom right of the ad.



16 DECEMBER
10am-3pm

**FUNKY
KIDZ**

CHRISTMAS MARKET

Midlands
Mini's

LIDGETTON

R103 / 5min from PIGGLY WIGGLY Location pin can be sent via email

SANTA ARRIVES AT 11am



Come join us

For a fun filled day at our very first

Funkykidz Christmas Market!

Do your Christmas shopping while
the kids EXPLORE the various activities.

We are looking for unique products/services
To book a stall email us at info@funkykidz.co.za

Book your ticket

info@funkykidz.co.za

*Pay before 13 Dec

R50

Getr you.....

a gift from Santa & UNLIMITED

**Messy
Play**

Day visitors MessyPlay ONLY R30

**Entrance
Free**

Life Café
@Life Church

Messy play date

R50

per child
5 months to 6 years



54 Bhengu Road, Amanzimtoti
15 December, 10am and 2pm

BOOKING ESSENTIAL min 10 kids
whatsapp num:
Roxanne : 083 346 1745

kids must wear old clothes

Cappuccino & Cake special for parents

R45

Messy Play

FUNKY
KIDZ



KINGSBURGH TO
SCOTTBURGH

“
Messy Play is coming to Kingsburgh through to
Scottburgh

“Learning through exploratory sensory play”

Sensory is calming, aids in cognitive development,
hand eye coordination, problem solving ... embrace
the mess.

Join us for a fun filled Messy Play Class
Ages 5 months to 6 years old

When: Tuesday 12th December

Where: Café Amanda,
16 Rockview Rd, Amanzimtoti

Time: 10am – 11:30am

Price: R80

RSVP: Nicolene 083 216 1524

Email: messyplayk2s@gmail.com

We have instructors in all areas of SOUTH AFRICA

Go to www.funkykidz.co.za to find one in your area.

If we don't have one in your area! BECOME ONE.

The Clever Little Owl Star of the MONTH

Tiago Serradinho



Wow, what a year it has been. My son has grown into a little boy!

After spending thousands of rands on activity programs I finally found The Clever Little Owl and have not regretted it one bit. Tiago loves doing his activities. These activities are so easy to follow between myself, daddy & his loving nanny Ruth, Tiago completes his activities weekly.

Tiago loves to be kept busy & lives to explore. Water play is his favourite but enjoys his quiet time too. (Threading, reading a book & puzzles).

Thank you for the variety of tools & materials that our little ones interact with to complete their activity.

So happy to be apart of The Clever Little Owl family

Best wishes for 2018!

Bronwyn & Tiago Serradinho





The Clever Little Owl 2018 Prices

1-2 year olds – R600 per year / R150 per term

Grade 0000 – R680 / R170 per term

Grade 000 – R800 per year / R200 per term

Grade 00 – R1000 per year / R250 per term

Grade R extension pack R800

Email

info@funkykidz.co.za to order

Or order online

Exciting NEWS

FunkyKidz is EXPANDING

From January 2018 we will be offering cooking classes and Active play classes as well as our FAMOUS messy Play classes.

We will need instructors in all areas of South Africa!

If you have a love for children and want to work with them, this could be for you! Be you own boss and work your own hours! Be there for your OWN Kiddies!!!!

Email info@funkykidz.co.za for more info!

From all of us at FunkyKidz and The Clever Little Owl we want to thank you for all the support you have given us in 2017. Have a great festive season and we look forward in making your little ones EDUCATION awesome in 2018.



May this *merry* season
bring Glory to your *life*,
Peace to your mind,
and joy to your *Heart*!