

Mudding Trilobites/Diving Beetles

Makes enough for 60-70 Trilobites or 25-30 Diving Beetles

Item	Amount	Notes (see photos on next page)
Dirt – The kind you might find in your yard	2 cups	Plain dirt with no amendments
Topsoil	2 cups	Topsoil with no amendments
Playground Sand	3/4 cup	Premium playground sand (Lowes/Home Depot)
Plaster of Paris	1/2 cup	Dap Brand purchased from (Lowes/Home Depot)
Water	1 1/2 cups	Warm tap water from sink

1. Egg cartons are a great way to store trilobites or diving beetles to let them dry after mudding.
2. Measurements must be EXACT using a measuring cup.
3. When ready to mud, start by pouring the dry ingredients into a larger plastic bin. Before adding water carefully mix the dry ingredients thoroughly for about a minute. It's most important that the plaster and sand are evenly distributed throughout the mixture.
4. Add the first ½ cup of water. Mix by hand, be sure to get the mixture out from the corners. Add the second ½ cup, continue mixing. Add the third ½ cup, continue mixing. If it is warm/dry, you may need to add another 1/8 cup of water if the mud is not sticking to the trilobite/diving beetle well or if it dries out a bit as you do the mudding.
5. Make little pancakes in your hand. Put the trilobite or diving beetle in the center of a pancake, and shape the mud into a ball. Place into egg cartons.



Mud Making for Trilobites and Diving Beetles