

ACE resources **Active Learning**



Young children thrive and their minds & bodies develop best when they have free access to stimulating outdoor environments for learning through play and real experiences. The *Curriculum for Excellence* guidelines for Early Years are clear that **all aspects of the curriculum can be explored outside. The sights, sounds and smells of the outdoors, the closeness to nature, the excitement most children feel, the wonder and curiosity all serve to enhance and stimulate learning.**

Celebrating space

Using my senses I have experienced, described and recorded the weather and changes in the environment. Through Discussion I can relate these to the seasons and show how these affect me. SCN 003

Explore dimensions. Lie down and look at the clouds, talk about the shapes they make. Notice the light & shadow as the sun passes across trees and buildings. Blow bubbles, fly balloons on string or tie ribbons to tall bamboo canes and watch them move in the breeze.



I am enjoying using small and large equipment in different physical experiences to explore and practise my movement skills. HWB 005D

Encourage movement. Make stretches of tarmac or grass more interesting with chalk or cones or set up an obstacle course with crates, planks, tunnels, tyres, cones.

I have had the freedom to choose and explore movement, expression and voice in different kinds for role play and drama. EXA 009M

Get physical. Read a story, song or poem together that inspires movement: jumping, spinning, hopping.

Experiment with sound. Play with your own volume control; use voices, clap hands, stamp feet. Have a range of instruments like whistles & bells or homemade with buckets and wooden spoons. Set up a musical story-trail by hiding bags with instruments. At appropriate points in a story, find the best instrument to make sounds like rain / horses hooves / swishy grass.

Celebrating creativity

I have had the freedom to discover and choose ways to create images and objects using a variety of art materials, exploring line, shape, form, colour, tone, pattern and texture

EXA 005E

Investigate natural resources. Get creative with natural resources such as mud, sand, and water. Provide different tools for digging, mixing, collecting and transporting. Get messy and experience how it feels to use mud or wet sand to form pits, build mounds and create mini play worlds.

Think big. Encourage large artwork by spreading a sheet, wallpaper or tarpaulin on the ground. Provide ready mixed paint in small squirty bottles, powder paint in shakers or make runny mud paint with old buckets & spoons.



Celebrating nature

I am becoming more aware of my own senses and can use them to explore the world around me

SCN 010S

Explore different surfaces. Handle, smell and describe different natural materials such as herbs, leaves, sand and soil, using various parts of the body: lie down and feel grass tickle your neck, feel sand or puddles between your toes. Collect natural materials and make a 3D, touchy-feely collage.

I have observed living things around me over a period of time and recorded information on them. I can demonstrate my curiosity about living things and their environment

SCN 002B

Uncover wildlife. Explore logs and bushes with magnifying glasses, soft paint brushes for sweeping insects onto paper, torches and mirrors for looking under and around.

Through discovery, natural curiosity and imagination, I explore ways to construct models or solve problems.

TCH 004

Build dens. Create potential for dens by opening up an entrance into a cluster of bushes or clearing a neglected area. Provide crates, cardboard boxes, blankets and tarpaulins. Include 'joining tools' such as string, tape, ropes and pegs. Add to imaginative play creating a home for animals or storybook characters.

