



Understanding the World Planned

Focus

Explore planned physical activities that can support development Understanding of the World

Much of what children learn in the early years will be the start of their discovery of science, geography and Information and Communication Technologies.

Activity Ideas

Active stories and role-play

- different people (different occupations, countries, your neighbourhood, etc.) are an enjoyable, non-threatening way to learn about the world, locally, nationally and globally.
- about the weather, the seasons, day and night, animals, trees and other plants, birds, etc. make learning fun and accessible.
- Where children are involved in identifying the plot and outcome of the stories or allow children to use their knowledge and interests, learning about what they do and do not know.
- help children to understand the world further afield, such as the sea, jungles, deserts, other countries and about the roles different people play in society, such as doctor, firefighter or grandfathers.

Real world tools and objects

- such as china, sewing kits and knives for cooking helps children to connect with what really happens around them.

Recycled and natural objects and materials

- Creating imaginative objects out of **recycled** and natural objects and materials will help children to learn about how we can take care of our environment by recycling and taking care of what and how much we use.

Manipulating and operating toys with buttons and other mechanisms

- not only develop their fine motor skills but will spark their early ICT learning and skills.

Use of media

- encourage movement, e.g. CD player, activities/dances on the internet, etc. will teach children about media and how they differ and how different types of media work.

Trips

- such as going to the park or to the local shops will help children to get a sense of the local area and the diversity within it. They will be able to discover different plants, people, textures, buildings and shops. In many areas they will also discover people from different countries and cultures.
- Visiting farms, zoos, etc., children will learn about animals, their differences and similarities, where they live, what they eat, how we interact with them.

Grouping activities

- such as what animals eat grass, how many different types of animals eat grass? What animals are soft? can support science and mathematics,

Gardening and Food Growing

- teaches children about plants, growth and life-cycles.
- teach children about the natural world.

Travel games (cars, bicycles, aeroplanes, etc.)

- will help children understand different places, how to get to them and an initial understanding of distances.
- It also teaches children about road safety, their local environment and the world.

Body awareness games

- help children learn about their body parts and how they fit together

Aiming and throwing games

- can teach children about different objects, such as what material they are made from, the difference in sizes, the difference in shapes and which ones are heavier.