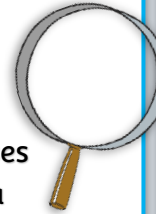


3 & 4 year olds

Examples to support learning

Plan and introduce new vocabulary related to the exploration. Encourage children to use it in their discussions, as they care for living things.

Provide equipment to support these investigations. Suggestions: magnifying glasses or a tablet with a magnifying app.



Invite different people to visit from a range of occupations, such as a plumber, a farmer, a vet, a member of the emergency services or an author.



Spend time with children talking about photos and memories. Encourage children to retell what their parents told them about their life-story and family.

Plan and introduce new vocabulary, encouraging children to use it to discuss their findings and ideas.

Provide interesting natural environments for children to explore freely outdoors.

Understanding the World 1

Make collections of natural materials to investigate and talk about. Suggestions:

- contrasting pieces of bark
- different types of leaves and seeds
- different types of rocks
- different shells and pebbles from the beach



Encourage children to talk about what they see. Model observational and investigational skills. Ask out loud: "I wonder if...?"

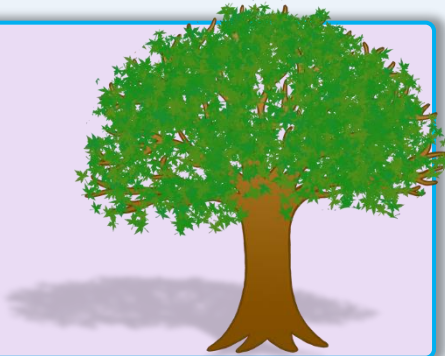
Show and explain the concepts of growth, change and decay with natural materials. Suggestions:

- plant seeds and bulbs so children observe growth and decay over time
- observe an apple core going brown and mouldy over time
- help children to care for animals and take part in first-hand scientific explorations of animal life cycles, such as caterpillars or chick eggs.

3 & 4 year olds

Examples to support learning

Investigate shadows.



Plan and introduce new vocabulary related to occupations and encourage children to use it in their speech and play.

Encourage children to refer to books, wall displays and online resources.



Plan and introduce new vocabulary related to the exploration and encourage children to use it.

Provide mechanical equipment for children to play with and investigate. Suggestions: wind-up toys, pulleys, sets of cogs with pegs and boards.

Consider opportunities to challenge gender and other stereotypes.

Understanding the World 2

Provide children with opportunities to change materials from one state to another. Suggestions:

- cooking – combining different ingredients, and then cooling or heating (cooking) them
- melting – leave ice cubes out in the sun, see what happens when you shake salt onto them (children should not touch to avoid danger of frostbite)



Draw children's attention to forces. Suggestions:

- how the water pushes up when they try to push a plastic boat under it
- how they can stretch elastic, snap a twig, but cannot bend a metal rod
- magnetic attraction and repulsion

Encourage children to talk about the differences they notice between people, whilst also drawing their attention to similarities between different families and communities.

3 & 4 year olds

Examples to support learning



Use a diverse range of props, puppets, dolls, and books to encourage children to notice and talk about similarities and differences.

This will support their investigations and extend their knowledge and ways of thinking.

Celebrate and value cultural, religious and community events and experiences.

Practitioners can create books and displays about children's families around the world, or holidays they have been on. Encourage children to talk about each other's families and ask questions.

Explore how different materials sink and float.



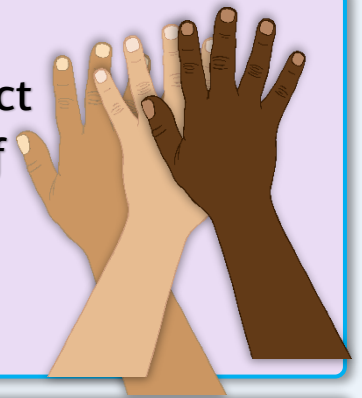
Plan and introduce new vocabulary related to the exploration and encourage children to use it.

Understanding the World 3

Help children to learn each other's names, modelling correct pronunciation.

Explore how you can shine light through some materials, but not others.

Ensure that resources reflect the diversity of life in modern Britain.



Answer their questions and encourage discussion. Suggestion: talk positively about different appearances, skin colours and hair types.

3 & 4 year olds

Examples to support learning

Plan and introduce new vocabulary related to the exploration. Encourage children to use it in their discussions, as they care for living things.

Provide equipment to support these investigations.
Suggestions:
magnifying glasses or a tablet with a magnifying app.

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