

Outdoor Play

A Unique Child +		Positive Relationships +		Enabling Environments	
with teaching and support from adults					
= Learning and Development:					
Aspects:					
Personal, Social and Emotional Development – Self Regulation – 1, Managing Self – 2, Building Relationships -3					
Communication and Language – Listening, Attention and Understanding – 1, Speaking - 2					
Physical Development – Gross Motor Skills – 1, Fine Motor Skills - 2					
Literacy – Comprehension – 1, Word Reading – 2, Writing - 3					
Mathematics – Number – 1, Numerical Patterns - 2					
Understanding the World – The Natural World - 3					
Expressive Arts and Design – Creating with Materials – 1, Being Imaginative and Expressive - 2					
Characteristics of Effective Learning:					
Playing and Exploring (engagement) – Finding out and exploring, Playing with what they know, Being willing to ‘have a go’					
Active Learning (motivation) – Being involved and concentrating, Keeping on trying, Enjoying achieving what they set out to do					
Creating and Thinking Critically (thinking) – Having their own ideas, Making links, Choosing ways to do things					
Key Resources		Points to Consider		Effective Practice	
Climbing frame		Continuous access to the outdoors		Provide opportunities to:	
Mud kitchen				• Explore and care for the environment and the natural world	
Gardening equipment and resources		Appropriate storage of resources for easy access, e.g. Toolboxes for mark making		• Be aware of the weather and its effects on people/ resources	
Sand tray and resources				• Observe pattern and change within the environment	
Sand and stones		Seating areas to facilitate communication and reflection		• Give opportunities for children to work collaboratively and negotiate	
Water and resources				• Discuss ideas, observations and experiences with peers and adults.	
Guttering and stands				• Work on a large scale.	
wooden blocks		Adult role:		• Select resources and equipment for a purpose and to use safely.	
Instruments		Ensure safety		• Engage in imaginative play	
Exploring and investigating resources		Support turn taking		• Move with increasing control and co-ordination	
Small equipment e.g. bean bags, balls		Encourage appropriate use of equipment		• Negotiate space and recognise boundaries.	
Wheeled equipment		Support the children in their play		• Develop gross and fine motor skills	
Dens e.g. wooden, materials		Model play			
Messy play activities		Develop vocabulary			
Guinea Pigs					
Maths specific equipment					
Books					
Role Play					
Small world play					
Mark making equipment					

Key: aspects underlined are a particular focus of this area, resources located outside are in green

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