

Spring Tinkering

Tinkering during play benefits children's motor skills by teaching them to use their hands to shape, manipulate and move. Tinkering also helps to develop problem solving skills whilst building peer relationships which support team work and collaboration. There are 6 cards each containing tinkering ideas around the theme of spring. These are not meant to be lessons in themselves however opportunities for the children to explore and create. Much of this is child led with the idea that 10-15 minutes 'tinkering' per day will develop key practical and thinking skills. The list of resources is not exhaustive and is based around what is already in the classroom with a few seasonal extras.

Experiences and Outcomes

I can identify my senses and use them to explore the world around me. **SCN 0-12a**

Through creative play, I explore different materials and can share my reasoning for selecting materials for different purposes.

SCN 0-15a

I explore ways to design and construct models. **TCH 0-09a**

I explore everyday materials in creation of pictures/models/concepts

TCH 0-10a

Within real and imaginary settings, I am developing my practical skills as I select and work with a range of materials, tools and software. **TCH 0-12a**

I am learning to assess and manage risk, to protect myself and others, and to reduce the potential for harm when possible.

HWB 0-16a

In everyday activity and play, I explore and make choices to develop my learning and interests. I am encouraged to use and share my experiences **HWB 0-19a**



Amazing Materials

1

Recognising groups of objects requires logical thinking which helps with other decision making. It also helps in understanding the relationship between the different groups and being able to discuss hones analytical skills.

Cardboard
Crepe paper/tissue
Counters
Marble/Mini Egg
Paper egg templates
Paper plates
Pens/Pencils
String
Variety of eggs (e.g. jelly beans)

Glue

Marvellous Maze

Create a maze using a paper plate and strips of paper that are stuck with both ends to create a gate. Try and move the plate to get your marble or egg from the start to finish.

Take Flight

Create a windsock using different materials and then test outside on a windy day.

Egg Sort

Classify and sort eggs based on size and colour then justify why.



Sky High

2 There are all kinds of nests, from cup nests to digging holes in the ground to simply stuffing leaves in a high and safe place. There are all kinds of sizes; some can be as big as a car (an eagles) or as small as thimble (a bee hummingbird)

Broad beans
Eggs (plastic)
Elastic bands
Cotton wool
Feathers
Jars
Lollipop sticks
Plastic spoons
Pipe cleaners
Scrap paper

Egg Launcher

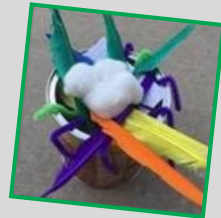
Using a spoon, lollipop sticks and some elastic bands create a catapult that will send your egg flying.

Birds Nest

Using materials that can be collected outside construct a nest that would be safe and secure to hold some birds eggs.

Grow a Beanstalk

Using some cotton wool and a jar place the broad bean in the jar and water. How tall will yours grow?



Eggo Blocks

3 Patterns are all around us and they help children to understand the natural order of every day lie. Patterns help to build maths vocabulary and concepts.

Egg cartons

Coloured shapes
(tangrams)

Paint

Pattern cards

Plastic eggs

Playdough

Eggo Blocks

Create building blocks using egg cartons by cutting them up and painting them. Use to create different structures.

Egg Stack

Use plastic eggs and playdough to construct the highest tower. Use the playdough to help balance the eggs.

Cracking Patterns

Using coloured shapes complete the eggcellent pattern cards.



Eggsploration

4 By being able to describe materials by touch (e.g. sticky, squidgy, soft, fluffy, hard, rough, wet, heavy, light) this helps children identify when a material is suitable or not for a specific function or task.

Eggs (weights) Scissors
Lollipop Sticks
Glue Pipe cleaners
Ice Straws
Seasonal fruit, vegetables and flowers
Range of media e.g. balloons, bubble wrap, paper, pipe cleaners, straws, glue, cotton wool, plastic bags, string

Basket Bounce

Create a basket using a variety of media that can hold a set number of eggs/weights.

Egg Drop

Using a variety of media create a case/basket to protect the egg from cracking when dropped.

Crack Me Up!

Freeze seasonal fruit, vegetables and flowers in ice cube trays and let the children explore different ways to get them out. Can they name what they are?

