

## Focus plan for Physical Development

Activity - Chopsticks! Date -

### Learning intention

Use a range of small and large equipment.

Handle tools, objects, construction and malleable materials safely and with increasing control.

### Resources

*Cleversticks* by Bernard Ashley

Pairs of chopsticks

Small objects to pick up - lengths of string, pieces of play dough, lego bricks, cotton reels etc.

Plastic bowls - 2 per child

### How the activity will be carried out

Read the book with the children. The little boy can use chopsticks very well and shows the other children how to do it. What do you normally use to eat with? In which countries might you be given chopsticks to eat with? Give each child two bowls - one with objects in and another that is empty. Give them a pair of chopsticks. Invite the children to explore the chopsticks. Can they pick up an object from their bowl? Has anyone used them before? Demonstrate the best technique, but allow them to experiment for themselves. If they get the hang of picking an object up, can they move it into their empty bowl? Which objects do they find easiest to pick up? You could try having broken biscuits at snack time for the children to eat with chopsticks, just like the story.

### Questions to ask/Language to use

Lift/balance/control/careful/slow/concentrate/open and close

### Differentiation (Birth to Three)

Set up a Chinese restaurant role play area, with chopsticks available. Use fatter chopsticks for younger children. Give them pieces of soft play dough to try to pick up.

### Extension

Invite the children to go and find other objects to practice picking up with their chopsticks. Can they sort their objects into things that are easy to pick up and things that are difficult?

### Evaluation