

## Focus plan for Knowledge and Understanding of the World

### Activity - Freezing and Melting Date -

#### Learning intention

Look closely at similarities and differences, patterns and change.

Ask questions about why things happen and how things work.

#### Resources

Ice cube trays, balloons, rubber gloves or any other fun receptacle for freezing water in  
Jug of cold water with other empty jugs

Water aprons

A large tray

Freezer

#### How the activity will be carried out

This activity needs to be carried out over two sessions. Begin by observing the jug of cold water. Let the children put their hands in it, pour it into other jugs. Talk about what water does, how it moves, what it feels like. What do they think would happen to the water if we put it in the freezer? Help the children to pour the water into the ice cube trays and other containers. If there is a freezer at the setting, help the children to put the containers in it. If not tell them that you will take it home and put it in your freezer. In a following session, invite the children to look at the containers. What has happened to the water? It has turned to ice. Why has it frozen? How is ice different from water? Help the children to tip the ice out of the containers onto a large tray. Let them explore the feel and shape of the ice. What will happen to the ice now it is out of the freezer? Some of the ice shapes are bigger than others. Which ones will melt first? Leave the ice shapes in the tray. Let the children come back to the ice every so often and talk with them about what they see. Did the bigger or smaller shapes melt first?

#### Questions to ask/Language to use

Freeze, melt, liquid, runny, splash, hard, cold, solid

Faster, slower, warm, pour, ice, water

#### Differentiation (Birth to Three)

Put difference shapes and sizes of ice in a big tray and let the children explore the feel of it. As they play the ice will begin to melt. Talk about this with them.

#### Extension

Record the process on a digital camera and let them sequence the pictures. Extend the experiment by adding salt to some of the ice cubes, or warm water. Do they melt more quickly?

#### Evaluation