

Focus plan for Knowledge and Understanding of the World

Activity - Reuse and Recycle Date -

Learning intention

Ask questions about how things happen and why things work.

Find out about their environment and talk about the features they like and dislike.

Resources

Picture of rubbish collectors

A variety of rubbish to be recycled - include cans, clothes, plastic bottles, paper, cardboard boxes, tin foil, fruit and vegetable peelings

Crates or plastic boxes with labels (including pictures) for each type of recyclable material

Compost bin (if you have one) or compost container

magnets

How the activity will be carried out

Invite the children to look at the pictures of rubbish collectors with you. Talk about why we throw things away and what sort of things we throw away. Is there something else we can do with a lot of our rubbish? Talk about recycling and why we do it.

Invite the children to sort the rubbish out into appropriate piles, e.g. clothes for charity shop, vegetable peelings for the compost, paper and card. Use the magnets to sort the aluminium and steel cans. Encourage the children to put each type of recycling in its correct box, and use the boxes to set up a recycling area in the nursery. What will the paper/plastic bottles be made into when they are recycled?

Questions to ask/Language to use

What do the people in the pictures do to help us?

What would happen if they didn't collect our rubbish for us?

Where does all our rubbish go?

Can we do anything else with our rubbish?

What will happen to the vegetable peelings?

What happens to a plastic bottle when it gets recycled?

Sort, magnetic, worn out, old, empty, used

Differentiation (Birth to Three)

Give the children role play opportunities to be rubbish collectors, especially at tidy up time!

Extension

Children could go on a visit to a recycling point to recycle the things they have sorted. Put the children in charge of recycling paper in the setting. Watch the vegetable peelings over time as they rot down. Use the compost in a part of the outside area to grow things.

Evaluation

