

Focus plan for Knowledge and Understanding of the World

Activity - Precious Water Date -

Learning intention

Find out about, and identify, some features of living things, objects and events they observe.

Ask questions about why things happen and how things work.

Resources

(Time this activity for when there is likely to be some rain.)

Books and pictures about how people get their water in different countries - taps, collect from wells, carry in buckets

Large plastic bottles with the tops cut off

Trowels or little spades

Paper and pens

How the activity will be carried out

Look at the pictures with the children. Talk about some of the different ways people get water. How do we get our water? What do we use the water for? (Drink, cooking, bathing, cleaning teeth, watering plants). Talk about how in some countries there is often not enough water, and how important it is to be careful with water even in this country.

Some countries go months and months without a drop of rain. Let's see how much water we get from the rain in our garden/outside area. Explain that they can use the plastic bottles to catch the rainwater in. Give the children a spade and ask them to dig a hole to fit the plastic bottle into so that it doesn't fall over. Put them in different places in the garden. Do the children think it will rain soon? How much water do they think they will collect? Check the bottles each day for a few days. Invite the children to record how much water they have collected by drawing a picture of a bottle and colouring the level of the water. What do the children think they should do with the water when the activity is finished? Don't waste it! (Put it in their water tray/water plants etc.)

Questions to ask/Language to use

We all need water/More or less/rainfall/drought/wet/dry/collect/measure/record/save/waste

Differentiation (Birth to Three)

Put plastic bottles and jugs in the water tray. Sing '10 water bottles sitting on the wall'. Show them how to turn off taps after they have washed their hands so they don't waste the water.

Extension

Put small groups of children in charge or one collecting bottle. Colour them with a marker pen so each group knows which one is theirs. They can return to the same one each time and take responsibility for recording the level of rainwater in it.

Evaluation

