

## Focus plan for Knowledge and Understanding of the World

### Activity - Who's in the cave?

#### 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

A 'cave' role play area - dark fabric, nocturnal animal toys

Recording of night time sounds such as owl hooting, rustling and sniffing noises, screech of a fox/cat

Torches

Books about nocturnal animals

#### How the activity will be carried out

Use this as an opportunity to introduce a new role play area. Look at the books about nocturnal animals with the children. Talk about the different animals. Have they ever seen or heard them at night? Show the children the 'cave'. Discuss the darkness inside the cave. What could help us to see in the dark here? Give the children time to explore the torches and how they switch on and off. Invite the children to go into the cave with their torches. They must be very quiet and listen carefully as there may be night time animals out and about! (Switch on the recording of night sounds). Help them to discover the toy animals and recognise the night time sounds. Try switching off the torches. What can they see now?

#### Questions to ask/Language to use

Quiet/creeping/screech/hoot/rustle/light/bright/dark

How can we see in the dark?/What can you see?/What can you hear?/What do you feel?

#### Differentiation (Birth to Three)

Give children time to play with the animals and torches in the cave. Can they make some of the night time sounds with their voices?

#### Extension

Leave dry leaves/straw/moss in the cave. Invite children to make nests for the night time animals.

#### Evaluation