

Focus plan for Knowledge and understanding of the world

(Goals for a sense of place)

Activity - Looking at seasonal changes

Date -

Learning intention

To develop children's observational skills around their environment

Resources

Photographs of the local area and outside area at different times of year. Books, posters, pictures and websites featuring seasonal changes. Paper and pencils, clipboards, camera.

How the activity will be carried out

In a group, discuss the cycle of the year - setting events, birthdays, special events, how the weather changes at different times. Talk about how specific weather conditions alter the environment - organise into the four seasons, with relevant observations being noted by scribe. Look at the pictures and sort by (possible) season (it may be useful to point out that unseasonable conditions can occur?) Walk around the area or outside area and talk about how things appear now - back in the setting compare to other times of the year.

Questions to ask/Language to use

What happens at what time of year - spring, summer, autumn/fall, winter? What colours do we think of with the seasons (looking at pictures)

Growing, shoots, buds, rain, green, bigger, more leafy, warmer, flowers, colourful, birds, bugs, bees, butterflies, hot, wasps, storms, cooler, red, orange, brown, fruit, conkers, dying, falling, bare, cold, ice, snow, frost

Differentiation (Birth to Three)

Concentrate on temperature changes and new growth - full growth - fruiting - dying back.

Extension

Show snapshots of weather out of context - what time of year? Festivals such as harvest, christmas - when? Sequencing seasonal pictures. Making own cycles of the year poster.

Evaluation