

Our Green Future

During this series of activities, learners will make decisions towards the changes they want to see in their outdoor space. They will have the opportunity to plan and reflect on their dream green setting and vote on which green intervention they would like initiate.

Teaching time

Continuous Provision Station

Learning outcomes

- Safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function.
- Share their creations, explaining the process they have used

Step by step

To begin with, learners can be invited to cut a heart shaped hole in a piece of paper. Using this as view finder, they can hold the heart to frame parts of their outdoor space they like. Learners can be challenged to do this several times with a particular sense mind each time (sight, smell, hearing, touch). A circle time reflection activity can provide the space for learners to share elements of the outdoor space they liked the most and why. We can support learners to understand their role in caring for and developing their outdoor space, valuing both the needs of wildlife and each other. To create a healthy space for wildlife, pictures, (resource from Jade) can be used to introduce nature intervention ideas:

- Planting a wildflower area
- Tree planting
- Making raised beds to grow food.
- Creating a discovery dig pit to explore life underground.
- Digging a pond
- Creating a log circle.
- Building a bug hotel
- Green Wall

Show the group pictures of each potential intervention and discuss how it may impact themselves and wildlife. Introduce a simple hand drawn or google map image of your setting to the learners and take a walk around the try and orientate where you are on the map. Point to a spot on the map and ask learners to find it in real life.

Now place smaller pictures of the interventions (2cm by 2cm) on the arts and crafts table with a simple hand drawn map of your setting for each child. Give learners time to stick the interventions they like on to the map of their setting so that they have the opportunity to design a potential new space.

Green Skills



Suitable for

Early Years

Location

Indoors

Outdoors

Season

Spring Summer Autumn Winter

What you'll need

A piece of paper for each child to make a heart-shaped view finder

Pictures of potential interventions (have a look on RHS's Campaign for School Gardening)

Key vocabulary

Vision

Nature

Wildlife

Support and extension opportunities

Place a picture of each potential intervention along the bottom of a pictogram. Explain that each child has one vote and can vote on the intervention that they really want to see in their setting. Learners can vote by placing a multilink cube on their choice of intervention. Once all learners and staff have voted a simple bar chart has formed and you can discuss the findings as a class. The learners have now voted on a positive change they wish to make in the world. If your setting is entirely indoors or on concrete, you can alter this by planting in tyres or pots and have learners decide on which seeds to plant.

For more activities supporting this Early Learning Goal, please visit the corresponding webpage on the Nature Park website.





For more quality-assured learning resources visit **www.educationnaturepark.org.uk**



With







Partners











Commissioned by

Department for Education

Working with

