

Let's Learn at Home

Fun things to
do this week



Lancashire Early Years Consultants Team

Children under 3 years old



What do we need?

Little Scientists

Experiments to try at home.

Sensory bottles

- Different size plastic bottles
- Food colouring
- Glitter, sequins
- Vegetable oil
- funnel
- Water
- Washing up liquid
- Syrup

What do we do?

- For babies you will have to fill several bottles for them
- Encourage your child to help pour different liquids into each bottle
- In one, pour just water and glitter
- In another pour water, vegetable oil and food colouring
- Continue to mix different liquids and food colouring to individual bottles
- You will start to have a collection of bottles which when tipped or shaken will have a cause and effect
- You can extend this activity by creating your own sensory bottles using, sand, mud, rice, dried pulses etc.

What are we learning?

- Curiosity
- Moving and handling
- Early science
- Maths (volume and capacity)
- How to follow simple instructions
- Independence
- Fine motor skills
- Exploring, using different materials

Children 3 to 5 years old



What do we need?

Dancing Raisins

- A pint glass or large plastic vessel
- Warm water
- Raisins
- Bicarbonate of soda
- White vinegar
- Teaspoon

What do we do?

Always supervise this activity but allow your child to independently do the experiment.

- Fill the glass half full with warm water
- Put glass on a tray in case it overflows
- Add two heaped teaspoons of baking soda
- Add a few raisins
- Top up with white vinegar
- Observe how the raisins begin to rise and fall,
- Watch out for the bubbles as they move and pop
- Try using sultanas, dried cranberries and prunes and see what happens

What are we learning?

- Ask simple questions e.g. "How did that happen?"
- Follow simple instructions
- Being inquisitive
- Similarities and differences
- Curiosity
- Independence
- How to perform simple experiments
- Spatial awareness
- Being imaginative



What do we need?

Wormery

- An old jar, plastic would be the best
- Sand
- Soil
- Gravel
- Old leaves
- Water
- Worms
- Grass clippings

What do we do?

Instructions:

- Add a layer of gravel or small stones to the bottom of the jar, this should help with drainage
- Add the soil and sand in layers
- Add a little water – not too much
- Find some worms and gently put them on top of the soil
- Add the leaves and grass clippings to the top
- Make some holes in the lids (get an adult to help, and screw it on the jar)

What are we learning?

- Curiosity
- Understanding the living world
- Recognising things in the living world around them
- Curiosity and an interest in the outdoors
- How to use simple questions "How do earthworms move?" and "why do we need worms?"
- New vocabulary
- Create own experiment

