Lancashire Early years

Let's Learn at Home

Fun things to do this week

Lancashire Early Years Consultants Team

Lancashire County Council

Children under 3 years old

What do we need?

Little Scientist

Experiments to try at home

- Ice cube trays
- Small yogurt pots
- Water - cold and warm
- A selection of food colourings
- Large clear plastic container
- Tray

What do we do?

- Freeze a variety of colours in the ice cube tray and yogurt pots
- When frozen take out of freezer and place on a tray
- Help your child tip out the containers with the ice in
- Fill container with cold water and let your child pick which colour of ice they want to put in the water
- Watch how the colours begin to mix
- Describe to your child what is happening
- Use language for e.g. warm, cold and freezing
- Repeat using warm water and talk about the colours and how the ice is melting

What are we learning?

- Fine motor skills
- Communication and language (new vocabulary)
- developing their senses
- Cause and effect
- Exploring colours
- Experiments and exploring with different materials
- Begins to understand temperature (warm and cold)

Children 3 to 5 years old

What do we need?

- 2 bags of Skittles
- Small white plate
- Warm water
- Coloured bowls for sorting (optional)

What do we do?

- First tip all the skittles out into a big bowl and start sorting out the colours
- You could make this slightly trickier by using tweezers
- Once all the skittles are sorted into colours, lay them out in different patterns around the plate
- Tip a cup of warm water over the skittles so they are just covered
- Watch the magic happen
- Try different colour combinations and patterns for different effects
- Talk to your child and discuss what is happening

What are we learning?

- Creativity
- Cause and effect
- How to create different colours
- Fine motor skills
- Use resources independently
- Maths (patterns)
- Exploring a variety of materials
- Fascination (Awe and wonder)

What do we need?

- A container with a lid
- Vinegar
- Baking Soda
- Kitchen Roll

This experiment should ideally be done outside as it can be quite messy but fun

What do we do?

- Add about one centimetre of vinegar to the bottom of the canister
- Drop in a little baking soda
- Put on the lid and step back
- Watch what happens, the top flies off almost immediately

To try and slow the reaction down wrap the baking soda in a small piece of kitchen towel, which may give you enough time to put the canister down and grab a camera

What are we learning?

- Creativity
- How to create an experiment
- Follow instructions
- Descriptive language
- Fascination
- Early science
- Moving and handling

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