Puddle Play Activities

What You Will Need:

- Wellingtons
- Waterproofs
- Puddles

Activity One – Splashing

Learning how to move starts very early on in life. Puddles are a perfect way to practise movement skills such as jumping; hopping or wading.

Children have great fun splashing in puddles. To do that, they need to jump! Jumping develops balance, strength and agility in little legs. They can try jumping in different ways - big jumps, little hops, run and jump, jumping jacks. Puddles can also be kicked; stirred and poured which are more great movement skills.

See if you can empty a puddle by splashing or see how far your splash spreads! This can meet maths outcomes by measuring the puddle depth or the spread of the splash. It creates science investigations around who can remove the most water from the puddle and different ways of doing this.

Use buckets, spades or other assorted containers/tools to see if you can move the puddle from one area to another. This encourages the technology-based skills of problem solving and trial and error in trying to move the puddle from one place to another.

What are the Children Learning?

I am developing my movement skills through practice and energetic play. HWB 0-22a
I am enjoying daily opportunities to participate in different kinds of energetic play, both outdoors and indoors. ***HWB 0-25a***
I know that being active is a healthy way to be. **HWB 0-27a**
I have experimented with everyday items as units of measure to investigate and compare sizes and amounts in my environment, sharing my findings with others. ***MNU 0-11a***
Through everyday experiences and play with a variety of toys and other objects, I can recognise simple types of forces and describe their effects. **SCN 0-07a**
Through play, I have explored a variety of ways of making sounds. **SCN 0-11a**

Activity Two – Floating and Sinking

Children can explore properties of floating and sinking by experimenting with different items found outside.

Ask Questions:

- Does a leaf float in the puddle?
- What about a stick?
- Or a rock?

Drop a flat stone into a puddle. Watch it sink. Now find some smaller stones and see if you can get one to land perfectly on top. Try different sizes or shapes of stone to find out which works best for this activity.

This can lead to other experiments and questioning. Children can learn to make predictions and explore strategies for answering their questions through this type of play. Why do ripples form when you drop a rock into a puddle? When you throw a rock into a puddle, it pushes water out of the way, making a ripple that moves away from where it landed. As the rock falls deeper into the puddle, the water near the surface rushes back to fill in the space it left behind.

What are the Children Learning?

Through everyday experiences and play with a variety of toys and other objects, I can recognise simple types of forces [such as gravity] and describe their effects. SCN 0-07a

Working on my own and with others, I use my curiosity and imagination to solve design problems. EXA 0-06a

Meena Kaur Singh 2021