

INFANT CLASSES – MATERIALS AND CHANGE

Teacher Guidelines: pp 123-128

Linkage:

- Living Things
- Properties and characteristics of materials
- Heat
- Environmental awareness and care

Integration:

- Geography: Natural Environments – Weather
- Oral Language Development – English and Gaeilge
- Visual Arts
- SPHE
- History
- Maths - sorting

INFANT CLASSES – MATERIALS & CHANGE

Content Objective:

- **EXPLORE THE EFFECTS OF WATER ON A VARIETY OF MATERIALS**

Some suggested activities:

- Discuss how we shelter from the rain. (Bus stop shelter, indoors, trees, umbrellas and doorways) Use photographs as a stimulus.
- Explore the effects of water on items like kitchen roll, fabric, plastic etc. What do they look like and feel like when they are dry? Predict what will happen when water is added? How has the material changed?
 - See Exemplar 39 page 124 Teacher Guidelines.

Some suggested investigations:

- Which materials would be good for keeping out water?

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Content Objective:

- **OBSERVE AND DESCRIBE MATERIALS WHEN THEY ARE WET AND WHEN THEY ARE DRY**

Some suggested activities:

- Discuss what happens in the school grounds after it rains. What does it look like? (Puddles, wet grass, wet soil, raindrops on plants etc.)
- Children explore dry soil, sand, paper, cotton wool, dry paints. What do they look like/feel like? Encourage children to predict what would happen to these items if water was added to them. Allow children to add water to these items and discuss the changes.

Some suggested investigations:

- Does dry or wet sand make a better sand castle?

Some suggested designing and making:

- A sand castle.

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Content Objective:

- **IDENTIFY SOME MATERIALS THAT ARE WATERPROOF**

Raincoat, umbrella, boot, feather, skin

Suggest materials suitable for rainy days

Design and make a waterproof outfit for a toy character or doll

Some suggested activities:

- Discuss things we wear on a rainy day
- Children explore items such as raincoat, umbrella, boot etc. List their properties

Some suggested investigations:

- What materials allow water go through them e.g. Plastic, tissue paper, j cloth and paper
- Which material would make the best umbrella

Some suggested designing and making:

- A rainy day outfit for teddy.
- An umbrella (construction straws and material).

INFANT CLASSES – MATERIALS & CHANGE

Content Objective:

- **EXPLORE THE EFFECTS OF HEATING AND COOLING ON EVERYDAY OBJECTS, MATERIALS AND SUBSTANCES**

Ice-cream, butter, chocolate, water.

Some suggested activities:

- Sort a selection of objects or pictures of objects into two categories hot or cold e.g. snowman, ice-cream, boiling kettle, fire, radiator, fridge, cooker, saucepan, heater.
- Discuss where we store items like an ice-cube, ice-cream, milk etc.
- Discuss where we heat food up.
- Discuss what food looks like before and after cooking eg. Bread/toast, eggs/fried or scrambled etc.

Some suggested investigations:

- Where will a chocolate button/ice cube melt the quickest under the table on the sunny window sill or in the press?