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Learning and Participation Resource Pack

The Weather: Session 4 – Autumn

Originally for EYFS/KS1 pupils with ASD and Learning Difficulties. Can be used for varying ages – depending on individual needs.



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Overview

Lesson ideas for the topic of the weather. Including activities for: drama, music, dance and sensory. Exploring different types of weather in a practical way with a focus on turn taking and communication/interaction.

Lesson Ideas

Warm up/icebreakers

- Sing a welcome song, hello song, a song to signify to the children that this lesson has begun, whether it be drama, music, dance, sensory or a combination.

Task ideas/starting points

- This lesson comprises a singing, dance and drama activity.
- Have the children in a circle either on the floor or chairs.
- You will need a speaker and access to YouTube for this session.
- You will also need a piece of fabric for the cool down.
- You will need cut outs of pumpkins – one for each child.
- Items to use to build a tree with conkers – trunk, leaves, conkers. Can be fabric, cut-outs or real items.

Task developments

- Singing: The song for the session is *One Little Pumpkin*. The number can be changed depending on the size of the group.

*“One little pumpkin smiling, smiling,
One little pumpkin smiling, smiling,
One little pumpkin smiling, smiling,
One little pumpkin is happy.”*

At each verse, one child comes into the middle of the circle and adds their pumpkin to the line of pumpkins.

- Create: As a group, create an autumn tree with conkers. One at a time, the children can come and add a leaf and a conker to the tree trunk. This activity can be accompanied with music of your choice.
- Dance: Using the leaves from the tree you have created or something else give all the children a leaf to hold and tell them to come together to make the physical image of a tree. When you tap them on the shoulder/say their name they must float off from the tree. Use music of your choice.

Differentiation for lower/higher ability

- Create: Children can go and find leaves and conkers outside before completing this activity.

Cool down ideas

- Using a piece of fabric, lift it high above the individual's head and then wash it over them. This is best accompanied with music and when doing this activity in groups put a calming visual on for them to have something to focus on whilst they wait for their turn.

Outcome

The children will have explored the theme of weather in a practical way and used multiple disciplines and skills to do so. If it is part of a wider curriculum theme, sessions like this can be used to generalise their knowledge.

Resources and useful links

Resource 1: One Little Pumpkin

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=trDl36m9pgA>

Resource 2: Chill out playlist on Spotify

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/11HXfRNI5ynyb08n1U23f8?si=qPAn-W1VRJqmwROoAbeCrw>

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