

Developmental Play Activity Overview

Make a recycled watering can



Year Group/s: EYFS

EYFS Curriculum Framework Links:

- Personal, Social, and Emotional Development (PSED)
- Physical Development
- Understanding the World
- Communication and Language
- Expressive Arts and Design

Summary:

In this activity children will reuse plastic bottles to create their own watering cans. Children can choose between different recycled containers such as milk bottles or plastic drinks bottles with holes in the lids. They will decorate their bottle and then use it independently to water plants. This activity supports children's understanding of caring for the environment by reusing materials while also building independence and responsibility in caring for plants

Prior Knowledge required:

- To know plants need water
- To know that we can reuse materials

Learning objective:

To care for our environment by reusing things we have, to help plants grow

- I can reuse a plastic bottle for a new purpose
- I can decorate my own watering can
- I can independently water plants

Prepare before the lesson:

- Ask families to bring in clean plastic bottles or milk bottles
- Prepare holes in the bottle lids (for sprinkling water)
- Provide decorating materials (paint, stickers, tape, markers)
- Provide aprons or protective coverings

Activity Outline:

1. Children are invited to explore a creative area where recycled bottles, decorating materials, and example watering cans are displayed
2. Children choose the bottle they would like to turn into a watering can
3. Adults talk with children about reusing materials and why it helps protect the environment
4. Children decorate their bottle using available materials
5. Once dry or ready, children fill their watering can with water
6. Children independently water plants in the indoor or outdoor area
7. Children are encouraged to return to use their watering cans regularly and talk about how watering helps plants grow