



Developing Our Learning Environment in EYFS



22nd January 2018

Dear parents and carers,

In the Early Years Foundation Stage we are always looking for ways to develop our indoor and outdoor learning environments to provide the most interesting and valuable learning experiences that we can. We would like to include more exciting natural and real-world resources that will inspire our children's language, interactions and understanding of the world, as well as encourage more purposeful opportunities for reading, writing and maths, led by their investigations through play.

How can you help?

As we are creating many of these areas from scratch, we are looking for any unwanted items that you may have, which we could then reuse or repurpose to build and resource our new provision.

Do you have any unwanted...

Real-world role play resources (metal, wooden and plastic)

Pots, pans, jugs, funnels, bakeware tins, cups, bowls, plates, teapots, kettles, containers, colanders, sieves, measuring spoons, measuring jugs, scales, metal buckets, sweet tins, small baskets, jelly moulds, ice cube trays, utensils, ice cream scoops, ladles, slotted spoons, garlic presses, turkey basters, rolling pins, newspapers, letter racks, magazine racks, phones, clocks, guttering, pipes, tyres, pallets, shopping baskets, vegetable racks, number plates, steering wheels, milk crates, cable drums, cones, signs, wooden planks

Fabrics, materials or role play costumes

Any kinds of interesting materials for dressing up, den-making etc. blankets, curtains, rugs, shower curtains, fabric offcuts, puppets, hats, scarves, bags, rucksacks, suitcases, picnic baskets, prams, buggies

Natural and interesting 'treasure' items

Pine cones, acorns, conkers, leaves, petals, seeds, pebbles, stones, shells, buttons, glass nuggets, corks, sticks, logs, branches, twigs, canes, gravel

Planting and growing items

Trowels, forks, sieves, watering cans, wheelbarrows, plant pots, hanging baskets, containers, plant labels, aprons and gloves, wellies, hose pipes, bird boxes and feeders, trellis, fencing panels, lawn edging, benches, shed, greenhouse, sundials, wind chimes, animal homes, doormats, topsoil, gravel, bark chip, plants, flowers, herbs, vegetables, tree trunks, paving stones, bricks

Real-world reading and writing inspiration

Notebooks, diaries, large paper, rolls of lining/wallpaper, recipe books, phone books, post-it notes, old envelopes, recycled birthday/Christmas cards, train tickets, train maps and timetables, fold-up road maps, Auto-traders, takeaway menus, catalogues, calendars, newspapers, magazines

Junk modeling materials

Cardboard tubes, cereal boxes, shoe boxes, tape, yoghurt pots, straws, bottle tops, jar lids, empty bottles (all sizes), cartons, cardboard boxes, string, wool, tissue paper, bubble wrap etc

Donating items

Please ensure any items you supply are made from strong materials that do not shatter dangerously and that they are clean and well maintained - cosmetic damage is fine, but please check for breaks and sharp edges.

If you have any items that you can donate, please pass them to a member of staff on the EYFS gate in the morning (next to Nursery) or to your child's class teacher at the end of the day.

If you feel that you could be more involved in helping us to develop part of our environment or that you have any specific skills that could be helpful to us, please just speak to a member of the EYFS team to discuss this. Any help is greatly received!

Thank you very much for your continued support.

EYFS Team