

Communication and Language

New language: heat, season, safety, holiday

- Find some summer related items. Blindfold the child and **describe** an item for them to guess. Let them blindfold you and describe an item to you too.
- Create a series of summer-themed one and two step **instructions** for the children to follow, for example "put a sun-hat on your foot."
- Cut up some summer fruits, for example strawberries, raspberries or mango. Invite the children to **taste the fruits** wearing blindfolds or while closing their eyes. Support the children to describe the taste of each fruit. You could even make up a poem using the words.
- Make a **puppet theatre** out of a cardboard box like a seaside Punch and Judy.

Personal Social Emotional Development

- Provide children with fabric, pegs and umbrellas. Work as a team to use their materials to **create areas of shade** outside.
- Have a **teddy bears' picnic** with some teddy bears, plates and a blanket to sit on. Invite friends or family too to share.
- Go on a **mini beast hunt** and think about how to care for them, putting them back where you found them.
- Talk about what your favourite summer activity is and why, listen to other people's ideas too.

Physical Development

- Talk about why we need to **keep drinking** lots in the Summer
- Create a summer-themed **obstacle course**. Challenge the children to keep a summer accessory on, such as large sunglasses or a floppy hat, as they complete it.
- Create a series of **summer-themed yoga** poses using some gentle music. Poses could include standing tall like a tree growing towards the sun or stretching out like a sunbathing snake.
- Outside, provide large pieces of paper, red, yellow, orange paint, brushes, sponges and rollers. Encourage the children to make large clockwise and anticlockwise movements to create some summer-themed **big art**.
- On a sunny day, put toys on big pieces of paper outside and **draw around the shadow** they make.

SUMMERTIME

Make an ice cream parlour and pretend ice creams with scrunched up paper, pompoms and a paper cone.

Literacy

- Can you think of 5 things that start with the **letter 's'**? See if you can draw them and have a go at writing the word too.
- Have a **listen** to some summer-themed sounds, such as gentle waves or buzzing bees. Think about how they make you feel.
- In a **shady spot** outside, provide the children with pencils and paper. Ask the children to look and listen to the world around them. Encourage the children to **write a word or sentence** to describe what they hear and see.

Maths

- Draw a picture of a flower with 8 petals. Colour 4 of them red. How many petals have you got left? Choose another colour for them.
- Draw and cut out 10 shells and number them 1-10. **Make up simple sums** with them
- Hide some of the shells around the house/room and ask the children to work out how many more they need to find to **make 10**.
- Create summer-themed **patterns** using objects, such as shells and stones. Challenge the children to make two and three-step patterns.
- Explain to the children that you are packing your case for a holiday and you don't want it to be too heavy. Provide some summer-themed objects for the children **weigh**. Encourage the children to share their predictions and findings about what you should take.
- Draw some different sized sandcastles and decorate them. **Talk about the size of them and order them** .
- Create a sun-themed **number matching** activity. Write the numerals 1 to 10 on clothes pegs and also around the edge of a yellow-coloured paper plate. Encourage children to fasten the pegs around the edge of the plate by matching the numerals together to create the sun's rays.

Expressive Arts and Design

- Draw a picture of where you would like to go for a **summer holiday**, it can be real or imaginary
- Make **seaside pictures** by drizzling glue on to the page and then sprinkling with sand.
- Mix sand with paint** to make some lovely textured paint. Ask the children to paint some seaside-themed pictures?
- Encourage children to **act out different summer activities**, such as eating an ice cream, flying a kite or building a sandcastle, do this as a game of charades?
- Explore **colour mixing** to paint a picture of the sun. Start with yellow in the middle of a circle of paper. Mix in a little red paint at a time and paint rings around the circle to complete the sunshine with rings of orange paint.
- Using lolly sticks and small rectangles of paper, decorate and make **flags for sandcastles**.
- Use old CDs and stickers and create **sun catchers**. Thread them on to string or ribbon and hang up outside.

Understanding the World

- When you are outside, look at your **shadow**, is it as big as you or smaller? Is it always the same size? Does it always follow you or does it sometimes go in front of you? Find out why?
- Make **shadow puppets** with your hands, toys or body.
- During the summer it's nice to have ice in our drinks to cool us down. Make some **ice cubes** and draw pictures of how you did it.
- Learn all about **how important bees are**. Talk about how to make your outside area more bee friendly and what to do if you are afraid of bees.
- Enjoy some **planting and growing**. Plant some lettuce seeds. Encourage the children to take care of their lettuce.
- Using fresh fruits, make some **ice lollies** and observe the process of freezing and melting.
- Take **summer-themed photos** of the outside world, for example bees in flowers, shadows and sunshine. Use these to create a photo book.