



Continuous provision: I am a scientist

These optional activities are designed to complement the learning objectives of the 'I am a scientist' unit. They reinforce core learning areas across different areas of provision, promote independence and cater to different learning styles.



Messy play area

Use the 'Supertato' storybook by Sue Hendra to inspire an ice rescue challenge. Freeze small world characters or vegetables in blocks of ice and arrange them in a large tray. Explain that Evil Pea has trapped the characters in ice and the children's mission is to rescue them. Encourage the children to experiment with different methods to melt the ice and free the characters.

Reading area

Read the 'Who Sank the Boat?' storybook by Pamela Allen to the class and place the book in the reading area. Challenge pairs of children to retell the story in their own words, using the illustrations as a guide. Encourage them to use a tablet to record their performance.



Outdoor area

Provide a variety of equipment for the children to investigate pushes and pulls such as tyres, wheelbarrows, scooters, bikes, trikes, large balls, ropes, fabrics and toys with pulleys.

Fine motor area

Cover the base of a large tray with gold or sparkly paper. Fill the tray with black-painted rice and scatter small stars over the top. Guide the children to use their fingers to draw stars in the rice, revealing the gold paper beneath. Encourage them to use tweezers to pick up the stars and collect them in a pot.



Creative area

Provide empty water bottles with lids, rice, recycled boxes and elastic bands. Ask the children to create musical instruments, such as shakers and guitars, using their junk modelling skills; challenge them to use their instruments to create loud and quiet sounds.