

Outdoor Learning Experience (4 years old)

Learning Experience: Animals / Insects in My Garden	Shared by: Nor Jehan Mohamed Salleh
Environment: Playground garden	Estimated time: 45 minutes
Children's prior knowledge: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children are familiar with animals found in the playground garden. 	
What children will experience (NEL Learning Areas): Discovery of the World: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children will identify 3 animals / insects in the garden and observe their movements. Aesthetics and Creative Expression: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children will use their bodies to create the animals' / insects' movements observed. 	Suitable for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 years old
What you will need: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Magnifying glasses Cameras Mah-jong papers Markers 	Benefit-Risk Assessment: Children will explore the garden familiar to them. They will walk around to observe different animals in the garden. <u>Benefit:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children will be able to relate to their prior knowledge on animals in the garden. They will also observe how animals move in their natural environment. <u>Risk:</u>

- Medium risk. Establish rules with the children. Children need to be aware of safety issues while observing the animals.

Management:

- Scan the venue to ensure it is free from potential hazards such as sharp objects, pot holes, broken tiles or insects
- Set limits/boundary for children to explore
- Ensure teachers have sight of the children at all times
- Brief children on the possible risks, such as looking out for any potential litter from the high rise buildings

How to make it happen:

Outdoors

1. Bring children to the garden.
2. Brief them on the rules. Group them into 2 groups.
3. Ask children the following questions;
 - What kind of animals / insects can you find in the garden?
4. Ask children to move around to find animals / insects.
5. When they find an animal / insect, have them observe it
6. Teacher takes a photo of the animal / insect.
7. Possible questions teacher can ask.
 - What animal / insect have you found?
 - How does the animal / insect look like?
8. Ask children to observe the movement of the animal / insect. Ask;
 - How does the animal / insect move?
 - What do you think the animal / insect is doing?
 - Does the animal / insect move fast or slow? Does it move as fast as the? Does it move as slow as the?
9. Repeat the activity with two other animals / insects.

Assemble in the Void Deck

1. Gather children to sit down on the void deck floor.
2. Ask children to name the animals / insects they have found in the garden.
3. Explain to children that some animals are known as insects and some animals are pets. Explain the meaning of an insect and meaning of a pet.
(This depends on the types of animals / insects found)
4. Instruct children that they are going to pretend to be the animal / insect in the garden.
 - Example: Let's pretend to be an ant. How do you think an ant move? Let's all move like an ant.
 - Repeat the activity with other animals/insects.
5. Invite 3 children and assign each an animal/insect;
 - Ask them to show how they move like their assigned animals/insects from one point to another.
 - Ask children, which animal moves the fastest/slowest?

Indoor - Follow up activity

1. Draw 3 columns on a piece of mah-jong paper and paste the photos of the animals/insects that were taken during the activity.
2. Ask children to name the movements and comment on the speed of the animals/insects whilst teacher writes them down.
3. Display the mah-jong paper in the classroom.