

Outdoor Learning Experience (4 and 5 years old)

Learning experience: Keeping Our Neighbourhood Clean	Shared by: Tham Foong Chue
Environment: An outdoor neighbourhood space (can be void deck, walk way, park)	Estimated time: 30 - 45 minutes
Children’s prior knowledge: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children have gone through learning experiences on reuse, reduce and recycle 	
What children will experience (NEL Learning Areas): Discovery of the world: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observe, identify and sort different types of rubbish • Clean the environment by clearing rubbish thrown around in the neighbourhood and throwing them in the correct recycle/rubbish bin Motor Skills Development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use tongs to pick up rubbish 	Suitable for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 and 5 years old
What you will need: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plastic bags labelled with ‘recycle’ and ‘other rubbish’ (sufficient for every child to have one of each labelled plastic bag) • Long tongs (one for each child) 	Benefit-Risk Assessment: <u>Benefit:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do a part in cleaning the environment and recycling some types of rubbish <u>Risk:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children stray too far from the teacher and get lost. (Likelihood: Low, Severity: mild – likely to experience anxiety) <u>Management:</u>

- Get more adults to help (can invite parents to join in the activity) in supervising small groups of children.
- Set limits / boundary for children to explore.

How to make it happen:

1. Let children know that they are going outdoors to help pick up rubbish to keep the environment clean.
2. Facilitate a prep session before going outdoors using the following questions:
 - a. What types of rubbish can be recycled? (glass bottle, cans, papers)
 - b. Which plastic bag should you put the rubbish that can be recycled into? (the plastic bag labelled 'recycle')
 - c. What types of rubbish cannot be recycled? (e.g. food items, dirty food containers/wrappers, electric items like batteries, light bulbs)
 - d. Which plastic bag should you put the rubbish that cannot be recycled into (the plastic bag labelled 'other rubbish')
3. Bring children to the identified outdoor space.
4. Pair children up and distribute the following to each pair:
 - a. one 'recycle' one 'other rubbish' plastic bag
 - b. two pairs of tongs.
5. Children will work in pairs or small groups to pick up the rubbish and sort them accordingly into the respective plastic bags.
6. When time is up, bring children to discard what they have picked in the correct bins as shown in the pictures on the right.
7. Facilitate a simple reflection session with children when they return to class with the following questions:
 - a. How do you feel when you see rubbish all around the neighbourhood? How do you feel when you help to clear the rubbish?
 - b. Why do you feel that way?
 - c. Will you throw your rubbish on the floor? What should you do when you want to throw your rubbish?
 - d. What will happen if everyone throws their rubbish around the environment?
 - e. How can we encourage people to keep the environment clean?

Photographs:



Recycle Bin



'Other Rubbish' Bin