

Outdoor Learning Experience (Birth to 3 years)

<p>Learning experience: Exploration of Shapes and Colours...Walk Through The Tunnel</p>	<p>Shared by: Gayatri Devi Mishra</p>
<p>Environment: The activity should be conducted ideally on a grassy surface in an outdoor environment, preferably in sunny weather.</p>	<p>Estimated time: 20 minutes</p>
<p>Children’s prior experiences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The children should already be able to walk on an uneven surface with a good spatial awareness. They are emotionally secure to try out the new experience of exploring the tunnel independently or with teacher’s guidance. 	<p>Suitable for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17 – 24 months old • 24 – 36 months old
<p>What children will experience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will experience venturing into the unknown, not knowing what they will see, as they enter the tunnel • Children will explore colours — red, blue, yellow, green, and orange • Children will explore different shapes — circle, triangle, square, and rectangle 	<p>EYDF Pillars:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Developing Child • The Intentional Programme
<p>What you will need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 heavy large cardboard boxes (140 x 60 x 56 cm) • 12 sheets of cellophane paper of various colours (A-4 sized, one for each shape) • A roll of duct tape • A pair of scissors • A box cutter 	<p>Benefit - Risk Assessment:</p> <p><u>Benefit:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This activity allows toddlers to explore colours and shapes, while fostering their independence. <p><u>Risk:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uneven surface area • Sharp edges of the cardboard <p><u>Management:</u></p>

- Ensure that the boxes do not have any sharp edges.
- The teacher should be able to see the toddlers inside the “tunnel” from different vantage points (e.g., the opening and the different cellophane “windows”).
- Since the activity is best conducted outdoors, the teacher should ensure that the ground is free of any sharp objects.

How to make it happen:

Preparation:

1. Use the box cutter to cut out holes in pairs of two different shapes on both sides and the top, along the length of each box (see diagram). Ensure that cut holes are big enough (e.g. max. 30 cm x 30 cm) for the sun to shine through them.
2. Cover the windows with cellophane papers of different colours to form “windows”.



3. Form the shape of a long tunnel by arranging the boxes next to each other
4. Secure boxes firmly together with duct tape.

Implementation:

- Encourage the toddlers to explore the tunnel in an excited voice and expressive demeanour: “Let’s check out the tunnel”.
- Offer instructions as they move into the tunnel: “You can walk or crawl”.
- Prompt the children to share what they can see from the different coloured “windows”.
- Pose questions in order to highlight the differences between the actual colours of the object and their perspective through the cellophane windows:
 - “What colour is the blue sky from the red window?”
 - “What colour is the green grass from the blue window”?

- Provide emotional support by letting the children know that you are there to support them when they face challenges:
 - “Don’t be scared, I am here, I can see you through the window”.
 - “Well done!”

Note: At a higher level of learning, the toddlers will get to observe how the different-coloured cellophane paper can transform the actual colours of the environment.