

Continuous provision:
Outdoor learning

Nursery
Age 3-4

Title: Balls down ramps

Child-initiated exploration

F found some small wooden balls whilst exploring the garden. He utilised the obstacle course and used it to build a route to run the balls down. He placed the ramp at a mid-point of the planks then placed a hollow wooden block at the end. F carefully rolled the ball down his construction but it rolled off the side. "Ooh no! Not on the grass" he exclaimed. He tried the same movement again and said, "Yeah the ball goes in the hole". F repeated this activity for some time with enjoyment on his face.



After some time we looked at other ways that we can make ramps in the garden. We found some different sized guttering which we ran down to the beach. F helped with the construction following instructions to carry on the route further with more gutters. F was intrigued with the faster movement of the balls and found a way in which the ball could carry on its movement through a gap in the beach. This made the ball continue with a longer route down to the bottom of the garden. This activity soon drew some of his peers onto the scene. He easily accepted their presence and shared the turn taking. As an extension to this activity, they all tried putting the balls into a hamster bowl, watching the balls roll about inside whilst the bowl travelled down the guttering.



Possible future provision/next steps

Provide different balls and materials for ramps. Revisit with marble runs.

Learning outcomes include (Development Matters, Understanding the World):

3 & 4 year olds: *Explore how things work. Explore and talk about different forces they can feel.*

Characteristics of effective teaching and learning - Active learning: *Use a range of strategies to reach a goal they have set themselves.*