

# EARLY YEARS SCIENCE PROVISION MAP

## Play, Observe & Ask

### Water Play

**Learn:** to perform a simple test

**You need:** lengths of drainpipe, water tray, cups, toy spider, mounting putty, e.g. Blu Tack® or similar

**Play, observe & ask:**

- Can we stop Incy Wincy being washed away by the water in the drainpipe?
- How many cups of water does it take to wash Incy Wincy out?
- How much mounting putty is needed to stop Incy Wincy being washed away?
- Why did Incy live in a drainpipe?
- Can you think of a better home for him? – move to construction

### Role Play

**Learn:** how different minibeasts move

**You need:** minibeast costumes

Dress up as a minibeast.

**Play, observe & ask:**

- Can you retell the story?
- Can you show me how your minibeast moves?
- Does your minibeast move quickly or slowly?
- Does your minibeast wriggle, crawl or fly?
- What sounds does your minibeast make?

### Sensory Play



**Learn:** that spiders live in webs

**You need:** twigs, string, images of spiders' webs (or go on a nature walk to find some webs); **or** foil pie trays, black card cut to fit pie tray, marbles, white paint

Tie the twigs together using string to create a star shaped frame which children can wind the string around to create a web.

Put some white paint in a tray and roll the marble around to make a web-like pattern.

**Play, observe & ask**

- Why do spiders spin webs?
- What shapes can you see in a web?
- What do they feel like?
- How can you make a web?

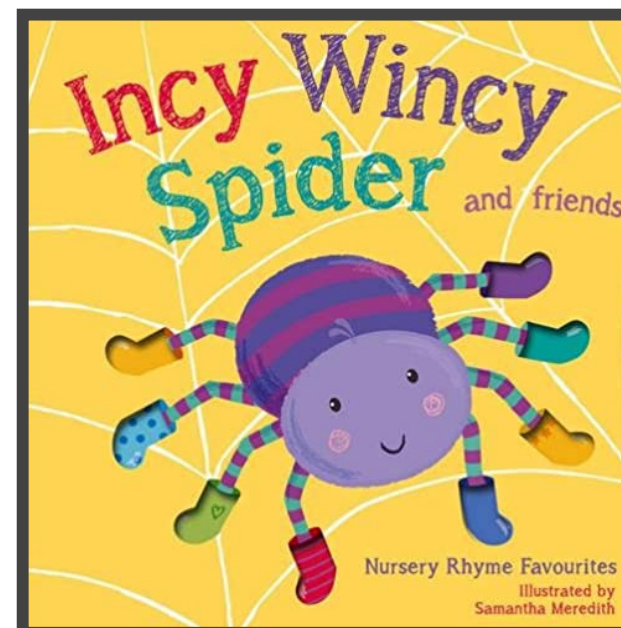
### Construction

**Learn:** some simple physical properties of materials

**You need:** toy spiders, range of construction materials to choose from e.g. building blocks, straws, pipe cleaners, tissue paper, foil, paper, cardboard, playdough, cotton wool, water sprayer

**Play, observe & ask:**

- Can you design and build a waterproof shelter to keep Incy Wincy dry?
- How can we tell if your shelter keeps Incy Wincy dry? Test for waterproofness by spraying with water.
- Which materials did/did not keep Incy Wincy dry? Why?



### Malleable Play



**Learn:** the body parts of a spider

**You need:** playdough, pipe cleaners, images of spiders, googly eyes

**Play observe & ask:**

- How many legs does a spider have?
- How many eyes does a spider have?
- Can you name the body parts of a spider?

### Outdoors

**Learn:** to identify some plants and animals in the outdoor environment

**You need:** outdoor area, minibeast and plant identification sheets, bug nets, magnifying glasses

Go on a nature walk or scavenger hunt.

**Play, observe & ask:**

- Which plants and animals can you find outdoors?
- Can you find any spiders' webs?
- Where do different minibeasts like to live?
- How many spiders can you find?
- Do they prefer sun or shade?
- What do spiders catch in their webs?

### Small World

**Learn:** similarities and differences between different minibeasts

**You need:** range of minibeasts, logs, bark chippings, rocks, leaves  
Encourage children to explore and compare.

**Play, observe & ask:**

- How many legs does this minibeast have?
- Which minibeasts have wings?
- How are these minibeasts similar?
- How are these minibeasts different?
- Can you sort and describe these minibeasts?

### Key Science Vocabulary

minibeasts - worm, woodlouse, spider, ladybird, etc.

body parts - head, body, legs, wings, antennae

habitat, webs, shelter, burrow, nest

crawl, wriggle, walk, fly

properties of materials - wet, dry, waterproof

### Further Science

Exploring animal similarities and differences - Can you find any other animals that have eight legs or 8 eyes?

Exploring animal behaviour - How do other animals 'catch/trap' their food?