

# EARLY YEARS SCIENCE PROVISION MAP

## Play, Observe & Ask

### Sensory Play

**Learn:** to describe textures; some materials change texture

**You need:** cooked potatoes and mashers, spoons, knives, jelly (definitely in a separate container, possibly on a different day!)

**Play, observe & ask**

- What does it feel like?
- Can we change the texture? How?
- What does it feel like now?
- Can you make it go back to how it used to be?

### Malleable Play

**Learn:** to describe textures of vegetables

**You need:** clay or modelling clay (e.g. Play-Doh\* or homemade), modelling tools, real vegetables with different textures (e.g. cabbage, potato, carrot, celery)

**Play observe & ask:**

- What do the vegetables feel like?
- What texture does your playdough vegetable need?
- How can we make it rough/smooth?

### Role Play

**Learn:** that objects and animals are hard to find if they are camouflaged

**You need:** Supertato masks, evil peas made from card  
Hide the evil peas (outdoors may be best) – Supertato's mission is to find them all. You could make some peas green and some brighter colours.

**Play, observe & ask:**

- Which peas were easy to find? Why?
- Where are the peas difficult to spot? Why?
- Do you know of any animals that are camouflaged? Why could this help them?

### Water Play

**Learn:** that ice melts when it gets warmer

**You need:** vegetables frozen into blocks of ice, warm and cold water, salt

The evil pea has trapped the other vegetables in ice! Can we rescue them?

**Play, observe & ask:**

- Can you describe the ice?
- How can we melt the ice?
- What happens when we add water?
- What happens when we add salt?



### Key Science Vocabulary

names of vegetables - potato, cabbage, carrot, celery, etc.

texture, mash, cut

properties of materials - rough, smooth, soft, hard, sticky, slippery, spiky

ice, water, freeze, frozen, melt, salt

plant, stem, leaf, root, flower, tuber, seed, shoot, grow

camouflage

### Outdoors

**Learn:** what plants need to grow

**You need:** seed potatoes, bag/pots to grow in, compost, watering can

**Play, observe & ask:**

- How do we plant/care for our potatoes?
- How have they changed?
- Can we measure how much they have grown?
- Where are the potatoes?
- How are we going to cook and eat them?

### Small World



**Learn:** the names of a variety of vegetables

**You need:** vegetables, stick on eyes, paper or fabric (to make capes), scissors, tape

Make the vegetables into the story characters and act out the story.

**Play, observe & ask:**

- Do you know the names of the vegetables?
- Have you tasted them? What do they taste like?
- Which vegetables do you like?

### Further Science

Healthy foods – We need to eat lots of vegetables. Taste different ways of cooking/preparing vegetables including some ways to eat vegetables that children might not have experienced, e.g. beetroot or courgette in cake.

How can you make Supertato move? Dress a potato as Supertato and experiment: rolling down a slope, make a zip line or catapult.