

Context:

Mars lander provocation

Reception

Age 4-5

Title: Eggstronaut testing

Adult-initiated focus on comparative testing

We had been talking about the NASA mission to Mars (due to land the next week). We drew faces on eggs and when Mrs C dropped one it smashed. We thought about how we could design and build landing devices to protect our 'Eggstronauts'.



B – I'm going to use foil because it's metal and it will protect the egg.

L – I'll use this bubble wrap – the bubbles will pop and it can protect my egg. I need a lot of sellotape.

K – The tissue paper – it will fly. I've put some foam inside – it's nice and soft.

B – I'm going to do a roof – stick bits on so it can stay in the air. I'm going to make a parachute cus I'm pretty smart.

R – I'm going to put it in a cup – and make a parachute to keep my egg safe.

S – I'll use tissue paper – I need two bits.

L – look how big it is – it can do this! (drops it)

B – I'm going to squash this foil really small – look it's a steering wheel. And I'm going to make a controller.

Then we wrapped up our eggstronauts and dropped them in our landing devices. We dropped them from higher and higher heights.

L – Yey it didn't crack – my egg is safe!

B – It survived! I loved that – I want to do that again tomorrow.



Possible future provision/next steps

Provide the children with a range of materials to explore in a hands on way and encourage them to describe their properties. Continue to find out more about the Mars landings.

Learning outcomes (Birth to 5, Technology):

Range 5: Plays with a range of materials to learn cause and effect.