

# EARLY YEARS SCIENCE PROVISION MAP

## Play, Observe & Ask

### Small World

**Learn:** to describe features of African animals and where they live; to identify similarities and differences

**You need:** models of African animals (wildebeest, warthog, vulture, hyena, marabou stork, lion, rhino, flamingos, zebra, leopard, etc.), tray, sticks, sand, stones, leaves, small plants

**Play, observe & ask:**

- How are these animals similar?
- How are these animals different?
- Can you sort the animals? How?
- Where do you think these animals live?
- What do you think the weather is like?
- Where do they get their food?
- Where in the world do you find these places?

### Malleable Play

**Learn:** what animals eat (food chains)

**You need:** modelling clay (e.g. playdough®), models of the animals, grass, leaves

**Play observe & ask:**

- What do the animals eat?
- How do the animals survive?
- What animals eat other animals? Why?
- How do animals and plants depend on each other?

### Outdoors

**Learn:** about shadows and light

**You need:** to go outside on a sunny day, chalk

Children could also investigate inside with torches and small world animals.

**Play, observe & ask:**

- When can you see shadows?
- What are shadows?
- Can you change the size/shape of a shadow? How?
- Why did the animals cast long shadows in the story?
- Can you shadow trace our model animals?

### Water/Sand Play

**Learn:** about drought; about where the animals live

**You need:** water, sand, tray, pictures

**Play, observe & ask:**

- What is drought?
- What grows here? Find out about waterholes
- What plants grow?
- How do the plants and animals live without much water?
- Can we help? (Recycling)

## THE UGLY FIVE

by Julia Donaldson & Alec Scheffler



### Construction

**Learn:** to describe features of African animals

**You need:** images of animals or plastic toy animals, junk materials, glue, tape, fabrics, feathers, sequins, etc.

**Play, observe & ask:**

- Can you make a model of one of the animals?
- How big is your animal?
- Does your animal have fur/feathers/scales?
- Can you describe your animal?
- How does your animal move?

### Sensory Play

**Learn:** that mixing colours makes new colours

**You need:** bottles, colours, oil, paints

**Play, observe & ask:**

- Can you describe the sunsets in the book?
- Have you seen a sunset? When? What was it like?
- What colours do you see?
- How do you make orange?

### Role Play

**Learn:** to describe features of African animals and where they live; how animals are suited to live in their habitat

**You need:** safari/game keeper costumes, pencils, notebooks, binoculars/magnifiers, pictures/footage of the animals, netting/fabric to build a hide

**Play, observe & ask:**

- Can you identify and sketch the animals?
- How are the animals similar/different?
- How are the animals suited to this habitat?
- Could any other animals live here? Why/why not?

### Key Science Vocabulary

African animals - wildebeest, warthog, vulture, hyena, marabou stork, lion, rhino, flamingos, zebra, leopard etc.

body parts - head, body, legs, mane, horn, tusks, beak, fur, feathers, scales, bristles, stripes, spots, camouflage

habitat - grassland, woodland, waterhole, safari, Africa,

weather, sun, hot, dry

carnivore, predator, prey

### Further Science

Investigate animal markings on familiar animals. Find out why some animals are camouflaged.

Handa's Surprise - read another story book which introduces African animals.