

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?

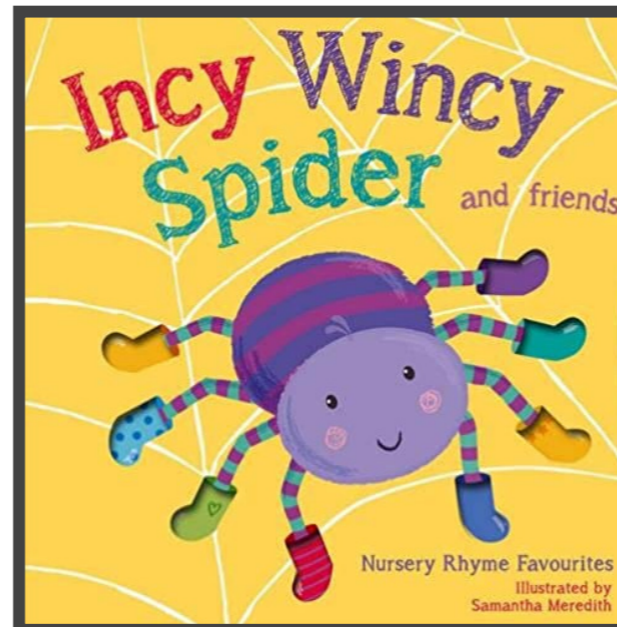
Construction

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?