



Looking at Buildings

Cross-curricular activities

English

The Three Little Pigs is a good choice of book to read with younger children to explore the idea of building materials and those best suited to making a house. Deeper meanings with older children, such as taking the time to invest properly in something, rather than rushing can be explored. Children could write using a range of genres: story/report about a building, recount about the trail, explanation text about function/purpose of chosen building, persuasive piece about any new buildings planned for the area such as the construction of a new housing estate or supermarket, or the planned demolition of an old building in their area.

Technology

Children could design and make their own buildings, selecting the most appropriate materials to use based on their properties – what could be used to make the windows? What would let the light in? What would be good for the doors or walls?

R.E.

Children could look at the variety of religious buildings and what religions worship or visit those buildings. They could compare a church, mosque, synagogue or temple as well as look at other buildings that are considered to be of religious importance. Why are buildings important to different religions?

History

Children could look at historical buildings both locally and within the context of a history topic they are looking at. They could also look at the history of building materials and how these have changed over time – for example when glass was first invented and used, how it was discovered and how many uses it has today, as well as how the process of making it has changed.

Geography

Children could look at similarities and differences between buildings (especially homes) from around the world and compare with their locality, e.g. What do they all have in common? How are they different? Does weather make a difference to the type of building/material used and why?

PSHE

Children could look at the developing world and the materials available/used to create buildings in these countries. What are the similarities and differences with our own country?

Art

Children could draw, paint or create pictures (e.g. collage) of local buildings.