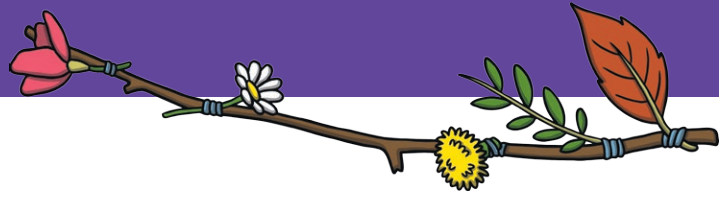




Take It Outside: Summer

English: Journey Sticks



Introduction

This is an activity inspired by the Twinkl original story, **'Treasures in the Garden'**. Children should feel inspired to explore the natural environment and create a record of their journey through natural objects by taking part in an activity inspired by Australian Aboriginal culture.

You will need:

A stick: one per child, rubber bands, an environment to explore, globe.

Key Questions

- What did you find?
- What did you notice?
- Compare your results with a friend. What was the same? What was different?
- Would you find the same if you did the treasure hunt at another time of year? Explain your answer.

What to do:

1. Read the Twinkl original story, 'Treasures in the Garden' with your class. How does Holly remember her journey in the story? What does she collect?
2. Explain to the children that you are going to explain a special way to remember a journey that you have been on. Australian Aboriginal people have inhabited Australia for thousands of years. Ask if any of the children know where Australia is. Can they show you on the globe? Support children in identifying Australia. Journey sticks have traditionally been used to remember the events of a journey. This is done by tying special things from their journey onto a stick, in chronological order. Make sure that children understand the vocabulary 'chronological order' – the order in which items were found. The stick can then be used to remember and tell people about the journey.
3. Show children the stick and rubber bands. Show children how to twist rubber bands onto the stick. Demonstrate how to tuck an object underneath the rubber band to attach it to the stick.
4. Give out the sticks and rubber bands (around five per stick). Children should attach rubber bands onto sticks.



5. Take the children on a walk or explore your outside environment. The activity will be more successful if pupils have the sense that they are going on an adventure. Children pick up anything from the environment that helps them to remember their journey and attach it to their stick. Make sure that children only pick things up from the ground and instruct them not to pick flowers.
6. Bring the class together. Children should use their journey sticks to orally retell the story of their journey to a partner.

Ways to Support

Some children may need help with fine motor skills and can be given prepared journey sticks.

Ways to Extend

The sticks can be used as a prompt for a written retelling or recount.

Curriculum Links

English: Spoken Language: Give well-structured descriptions; maintain attention and participate actively in collaborative conversations, staying on topic and initiating and responding to comments.

English: Composition: Write sentences by saying out loud what they are going to write about; write sentences by composing a sentence orally before writing it; writing narratives about personal experiences and those of others; writing about real events; consider what they are going to write before beginning by planning or saying out loud what they are going to write about.

*Remember to talk to children about safety and consider what things they should pick up. You may wish to ask the children to wear gloves.