

# Teaching and Learning

## Understanding of the world



When supporting children with developing their Understanding the world, there are 3 aspects for you to consider:

- Past and present
- People cultures and communities
- The natural world

How confident are staff in recognising the potential for learning in this area? Can you think of 3 activities or opportunities off of the top of your head to explore past and present?

There are so many activities and experiences that we provide in the early years to promote an understanding of the world, the opportunities are endless.

## Task 1

Sort the following list of activities and experiences into the above aspects (answers can be found below)

- Visiting library
- Walk to the local news agents
- Show and tell/ what we did this weekend?
- Standing in the rain with wellies and umbrellas
- Walking to the local park
- Growing plants or vegetables
- Treasure baskets
- Hunting for worms
- Exploring books and stories that represent diversity
- Investigating natural materials

- Sharing memory books
- Revisiting learning journeys
- Having visitors from different occupations
- Exploring pulleys, sets of cogs or windup toys
- Photos and images to support transitions/settling in
- Investigating magnets
- Cooking and baking
- Setting bear that goes home with the child for the weekend
- Attending a community event
- Visiting a local place of worship
- Creating a display about children's holidays
- Exploring artefacts
- Reflecting on the weather

This is not an exhaustive list of activities, but it provides you with a starting point.

Do you provide these activities already? Had you made the connection to understanding of the world?

Take a moment to reflect on the cultural capital of the children – what experiences and opportunities have the children already had and how will this shape your curriculum?

## **Answers**

Past and present

- Creating a display about children's holidays
- Exploring artefacts
- Setting bear that goes home with the child for the weekend
- Photos and images to support transitions/settling in
- Sharing memory books
- Revisiting learning journeys
- Show and tell/ what we did this weekend?

## The natural world

- Investigating magnets
- Cooking and baking
- Reflecting on the weather
- Exploring pulleys, sets of cogs or windup toys
- Investigating natural materials
- Growing plants or vegetables
- Treasure baskets
- Hunting for worms
- Standing in the rain with wellies and umbrellas

## People, cultures, and communities

- Attending a community event
- Visiting a local place of worship
- Having visitors from different occupations
- Exploring books and stories that represent diversity
- Walking to the local park
- Visiting library
- Walk to the local news agents