

Confident

Confident to know who to go to and how to find help when solving problems

Independent

Independent in dressing, undressing and toileting

Follow

Follow a cooking recipe and enjoy the process

Grow

Grow a vegetable, nurture it and eat it

Write

Write a message to someone

Make up

Make up a story and act it out

Build

Build and use an obstacle course

Design

Design and create a piece of artwork in response to a range of stimuli



	ow to find help when solving problems	
First milestone: Children begin to use the	Open ended resources are provided to give	
core vocabulary in context with some	children the opportunity to find their own	
modelling from adults. They show elements	ideas.	
of all characteristics of effective learning in	Staff encourage children's creative thinking;	
their play and have built a strong	they also share images of children's	
relationship with their key worker in the	learning with them to give opportunities for	
main room.	reflection.	
Second milestone: Children can gain	Children may gain an adult's attention by	
attention from a nearby adult or peer to	verbally using their name or physically	
ask for help and support with their task.	touching them.	
Third milestone: Children can seek out an	At this stage some travelling around the	
adult to support them even if they are not	room will be required. This means the	
in the immediate vicinity.	children will need to have the necessary	
They explore different elements of play and	attention skills to focus on the task in hand	
can experiment to find the best approach	and not become distracted. Adults may	
to a task.	need to provide some prompts.	
Final milestone: Children are confident and independent individuals who persist in trying		
new skills. When needed they are confident in seeking out an adult or peer to support		
them. They can explain what it is they need help with and request it in a way which is		
understood.		
Key vocabulary	Core: help, want, yes, no, more, finished,	
Closing the word gap resources and	Extension: together, tried, team work, find,	
strategies used to teach vocabulary as well	Technical: persistent, co-operate,	
as visual resources and adults modelling.		



Independent in dressing,	, undressing and toileting
stone: With adult support	As children get used to the

First milestone: With adult support children will be happy being changed standing up and sitting on the toilet between nappy changes.

With adult prompts children will be able to find a coat, boots, hat etc to prepare for going outside.

As children get used to the toilet routine, they will be practising the skills needed to increase in independence. Adults will model following the visual routine and symbols which supports children's language development as well as their physical skills.

Second milestone: Children will begin helping with changing by attempting and sometimes completing tasks such as pulling trousers up and down.

Children can start using the tag to toe technique with increasing success as well as independently finding the clothes they need for outside with a verbal prompt.

Staff will support children throughout this stage using the backward chaining approach at a level suitable for the individual.

Staff will support children with specific positive praise and encouragement.

Third milestone: Children will be increasingly independent in dressing and toileting. They may still need adult support with tasks such as starting zips, doing buttons etc which require a high level of fine motor skills.

Staff will continue to support children using the backward chaining approach when needed. This increases children's confidence, skill set and independence.

Final milestone: Children dress themselves independently for a variety of weathers. Adults may occasionally need to prompt children to look outside and think about the weather. Children will be able to change their clothes if needed, e.g. a wet t-shirt or trousers as well as putting their shoes on and taking them off.

Children are independent in using the toilet, pulling trousers up, down, washing hands etc.

Key vocabulary

Closing the word gap resources and strategies used to teach vocabulary as well as visual resources and adults modelling.

Core: up, down, on, off, wet, dry, coat, hat **Extension:** top, trousers, skirt, pants, long-sleeved, short-sleeved,

Technical: Words related to specifics of child's clothing e.g. describing textures



Follow a	cooking	recipe	and eni	ov the	process

First milestone: with adult support, children mix different ingredients. This includes activities such as mixing sand and water, flour and water, making simple playdough.

They can use the following tools: wooden spoons, sieves, scoops, rolling pins, cookie cutters and knives.

They can also mix substances outside such as in the mud kitchen.

Second milestone: in a small group, children follow the steps in completing a simple baking activity. The adult models using recipe cards. Adults support the children for them to use measures such as cups, teaspoons and tablespoons. Children are supported to complete and reflect on the process.

Third milestone: Children begin to show an increasing interest in step by step cards and visual resources around the setting. Children can independently use tools such as spoons and cups for measures with increasing control.

As children take part in these activities, they become more precise in using scoops (filling the scoop carefully to the top); they count the scoops as they top them out; they use a wide range of different sized containers.

Children become confident in using tools at the snack table to prepare their own snack e.g. spreading butter on toast/crackers, pouring their drinks

As children access cooking sessions on a regular basis they increase in confidence and adults can reduce their support. Adults will use scaffolding support approach as well as back chaining.

Outside of cooking sessions children will mix other substances together carefully using tools.

Children become increasingly independent and require minimal adult support during cooking sessions.

They can follow recipe cards in cooking sessions as well as other step by step cards throughout the setting.

Final milestone: Children follow the steps of a recipe independently or with peers. They measure ingredients, mix them and create their own product to be baked.

Key vocabulary

Closing the word gap resources and strategies used to teach vocabulary as well as visual resources and adults modelling.

Core: bowl, spoon, knife, fork, stir, pour, pat, mix, roll, soft, hard, wet, dry
Extension: whisk, beat, touch, smell, taste, knead, weigh, measure, scales, instructions
Technical: Words related to specific ingredients, predict, precise, accurate, sequence



Grow a vegetable, nurture it and eat it		
First milestone: Children can freely access	Adults support the children to explore the	
the outdoor area. They are developing the	environment and become comfortable with	
confidence to choose and use a variety of	the outdoor space. They access the area in	
resources in the setting.	all weathers and seasons.	
Second milestone: With adult support	Meal times are a good opportunity to	
children can plant large bulbs.	discuss where different foods come from.	
They begin to take a interest in the outside	Adults will facilitate these conversations	
world, responding to and noticing different	and model a range of healthy foods to	
plants growing, changing seasons.	support these conversations.	
	Adults will provide provoking stimuli in the	
	outdoor area to promote conversations	
	about different natural resources.	
Third milestone: Children become more	Children's fine motor skills are developing	
independent in plating a variety sized	further allowing them to successfully seed	
seeds/bulbs and use all their senses	plants with a reduced level of adult	
exploring the process in a hands on way.	support.	
They can use tools such as trowel and fork	Adults continue to facilitate conversations	
with increasing control and accuracy. With	about foods, ingredients and how things	
visual supports they can share what plants	are made. A variety of opportunities are	
need to grow.	provided to cook/bake different foods.	
Children show a willingness to try new		
foods when they see where it has come		
from.		
Final milestone: Children confidently talk abo	-	
are willing to try and variety of new foods and can comment on their likes and dislikes.		
Children are aware of what plants need to grow.		
Key vocabulary	Core: Flower, rain, water, sun, dig, mud,	
Closing the word gap resources and	pot, beautiful	
strategies used to teach vocabulary as well	Extension: Seed, bean, soil, stem, shoot,	
as visual resources and adults modelling.	plant, watering can, descriptive vocabulary.	
	Technical: Germinate, sow, specific	
	plant/vegetable names	



Write a message to someone

First milestone: children can use the muscles in their hands and arms to make big movements and bring together hand and eye movements to fix on and make contact with objects.

Children will increasingly become confident in engaging in activities such as: throwing, catching balls, exploring musical instruments, messy play resources, pouring drinks. As children build up their gross and fine motor skills they will engage in these activities for longer periods of time.
Children can grasp objects and can focus on what they are doing, for example; hold out arms in anticipation of catching a ball, thread beads, build a stable tower of blocks,

Second milestone: Children make marks with their fingers and some tools. Children will engage in a variety of ways to make marks. This can be using a variety of resources, tools in different locations.

As children become more confident in making marks they begin to talk about their marks with others and give meaning to these marks. E.g., 'that's mummy' 'that's me' 'it's a fish'.

Children will create large marks on a big

Third milestone: As children's mark making develops, they make more small controlled movements and can draw lines and circles. They can distinguish between these marks and share the difference, adults' model directional language.

Children access 'helicopter stories' which models writing written word and sharing information with others. This is also modelled by adults throughout the setting. As children's confidence grows, they will be more willing and able to show their work with others.

Children will naturally often want to make things for people at home which constitutes the beginnings of 'writing a message' to someone.

Final milestone: Children hold their mark making tool with a comfortable grip. They can find their name card and use other symbols to copy words/letters, adults can support them to find these resources.

Key vocabulary

Closing the word gap resources and strategies used to teach vocabulary as well as visual resources and adults modelling.

Core: up, down, round and round, zig zag,

side to side,

surface area.

Extension: to, from,

Technical: Words related to specific events,

resources and



ry and act it out
Children may begin by pretend-playing on their own with toys which represent familiar experiences such as farm animals, wild animals, small people, home corner
items. They may put on a costume to become a superhero or another character. Over time, their play becomes more complex. They are able to play with other children, developing their play together, negotiating
roles within a group.
As children participate in more shared reading, they ask questions and make links between stories and their own experiences. Children join in with rhymes and songs by repeating words or following actions.
They become increasingly confident using symbols and props to create stories. These can be of their own experiences or other ideas. They can make up their own story with
little prompting from an adult.
stories' approach to develop their story the character, setting and time. They can tell
Core: start, finish, tell, where, who, when, book, story, Extension: emotion language, beginning, end, character, next, why, Technical: problem, solution, create,



Build and use an obstacle course		
First milestone: Children are comfortable in	Activities are always adapted throughout a	
the setting and show the ability to safely	child's journey to suit their needs.	
travel around the environment in a number	Regular physical activities are offered inside	
of different ways. They may begin climbing	and out to support healthy development of	
on and exploring fixed/stand-alone objects	walking, jumping, catching etc.	
such as the tipi, tyres or crates.		
Second milestone: Children increase in	Adults support children to appropriately	
confidence using equipment such as bikes	assess risks. A variety of resources are	
and scooters. They may show an interest in	provided to increase children's opportunity	
obstacle courses built by others and start to	to strengthen their muscles and improve	
explore them	co-ordination.	
Third milestone: Children can assess how	Adult still need to support children's	
to safely and successfully travel along an	assessment of risk according to each	
object but assessing size and risk.	individual child's need. This is a good	
They may start building their own obstacle	opportunity to model a range of vocabulary	
course.	and raise questions with the children such	
	as 'how could we make that more secure?'	
	'is it too wobbly?' 'I wonder if that is long	
	enough'	
Final milestone: Children confidently travel of		
	ollaboratively with peers to safely move large	
objects in order to create an obstacle course.		
<u>Key vocabulary</u>	Core: stop, go, more, finished, same,	
Closing the word gap resources and	different	
strategies used to teach vocabulary as well	Extension: in, on, under, over, light, heavy,	
as visual resources and adults modelling.	soft, hard, wobbly, safe, danger, follow,	
	lead	
	Technical: next to, in front of, stable,	
	secure, unbalanced, gallop, slither	



Design and create a piece of artwo	rk in response to a range of stimuli	
First milestone: Children explore a range of	Adults provide provoking resources to	
different materials in different contexts.	interest the children in sensory exploration.	
They use all senses to manipulate and play	They model this exploration and promote a	
with materials available to them. This takes	willingness and excitement about exploring	
place inside and outside	the resources.	
Second milestone: Children become more	External artists are invited in to spark	
familiar with a selection of resources and	children's imaginations and widen their	
tools (such as, rollers, brushes, spreaders).	experiences. Popular/famous artwork is	
They use these with increasing control and	also displayed around the setting to	
confidence.	provoke discussion.	
	Adult's support and model children's	
	appropriate use of tools including one	
	handed tools.	
Third milestone: Children become more	Adults continue to provide children with a	
confident in mark making, independently	range of resources and stimuli. Children are	
choosing different tools and techniques	able to use these resources to explore their	
with less adult support.	own interests.	
Final milestone: Children draw from their imagination, direct experiences and the large		
variety of resources available to create a piece of artwork. They can use a range of		
techniques as well as comment and explain their piece of art and enjoy sharing it with		
others.		
Key vocabulary	Core: paint, brush, chalk, draw, stick, on,	
Closing the word gap resources and	pens, pencils, colour,	
strategies used to teach vocabulary as well	Extension: charcoal, colour names,	
as visual resources and adults modelling.	Technical: Artist names, texture words,	
	technique	