Curricular Area: Maths and Numeracy Level: Early Level



Experience and Outcomes

MNU 0-11a

I have experimented with everyday items as units of measure to investigate and compare sizes and amounts in my environment, sharing my findings with others.

MTH 0-16a

I enjoy investigating objects and shapes and can sort, describe and be creative with them.

Lit 0-4a

I listen and watch for useful or interesting information and I use this to make choices or learn new things.

Learning Outcome

- Develop mathematical language of measure.
- Identify, compare and organise items in terms of measure.
- Collecting leaves or fallen sticks enables children to explore length and breadth in a physical way.
- Breaking or sawing leaves and sticks to make them shorter is a very good way to begin visual estimation.

More advanced

 Using measuring tapes or rulers begin taking actual measurements using centimetres or inches.

Resources

Outdoor area

Natural resources – stones, sticks, leaves etc...

Measuring tapes, rulers

Activity

Find some sticks, stones, leaves etc... outside and put them in order of length and size.

Discuss items in terms of length, size and introduce mathematical language of measure.

Simply compare items and sort, could measure using footsteps, hands or fingers.

Could also use the items found to measure – each child is how many sticks long? Or their hand is so many stones long?

If children are able use rulers or measuring tapes to measure accurately.

Assessment

Can children find appropriate items to measure?

Can children use mathematical language of smaller, bigger, longer, shorter, length etc...?

Can children compare items in terms of smaller and bigger?
Can children describe how long or short items are?

Can children measure items accurately using various items e.g. 5 stones long?

Can children measure items using rulers or tape measures? Can children accurately measure items using centimetres or inches?

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