Fairy Gardens

Overview

An open-ended outdoor activity focused on creating an elf and fairy garden, supporting imagination, creativity and the use of natural loose materials.



Activities

- Have fun in a natural space or use natural materials in a bike tyre, a stick frame, hula hoop or plant pot.
- Experiment with materials like sand, soil, grass, bark, gravel, water and moss.
- Repurpose unused planters for a more permanent play feature.
- Include hardy plants like willow.
- Use natural materials to create characters, e.g. stick people and pebble bugs.

Equipment

- A variety of natural materials
- Small world figures
- A bike tyre, sticks to create a frame, a hoola hoop or a variety of containers –if no natural space.

Key Questions

Which areas would the fairies like to live in?
Why have you chosen this area?
What the most important things they need in their gardens?

Learning Outcomes

- Maths – explore size, scale, counting games, heavy, light, big and small.
- Language – storytelling, sensory stimulation – soft, spiky, smooth, sticky….
- Expressive arts and creativity using seasonal materials and fine motor skills.

Progression in Learning

- What do fairies need to live – food, water, shelter. Relate this to real life.
- Extending storytelling and imagination – a day in the life of a fairy.
- Creating homes for animals, insects and birds in the outdoor space.