Teddy Bear's Picnic

Overview

Planning a special, themed event for families to attend can encourage more families to join in. Make space for playful interactions that build strong relationships.



Activities

Invite families to journey together and have a teddy bear's picnic. Allow time to explore your chosen spot freely with your teddy bears before inviting everyone to gather for a picnic snack. Read a story, The Bear Hunt works well, then explore the themes in your spot and as you journey back. Having teddy explore on the child's behalf allows these things to be experienced at a distance to build anticipation and confidence.

Equipment

- A local greenspace – within easy walking distance of the setting
- A teddy or soft toy for each child
- A small picnic/snack (optional)
- Picnic rugs/tarps
- A good book.

Key Questions

Encourage families to ask,
"*Does teddy want to…*"
"…eat some banana?"
"…climb the tree?"
"…put his sun hat on?"
Model the ShREC approach so families can adopt these strategies.

Learning Outcomes

- Health & Wellbeing – Social interactions, sharing, building relationships.
- Play – exploring, parallel play, adventure.
- Literacy – Talking, listening, sequencing, role play.

Progression in Learning

'Hide the teddy'- where someone hides the teddy then everyone counts, then hunts together. This can work well for young children who enjoy hide and seek rather than the children going to hide themselves.