

Hunting for Hearts

Explore the idea of how we care for one another with Valentine's Day themed 'Heart Hunt' around your setting.

Learning aims

- Physical development
- Communication and language
- Understanding the World
- Mathematics
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development.



Resources

- Cut-out heart shapes
- Space to hide the hearts
- Basket/tub to store the hearts children have found
- Valentine's Day cards.

Activity outline

- Ask children what they know about Valentine's Day and discuss that it is a day when people send a card or flowers to people they care about
- Show the children examples of Valentine's Day cards (try to find ones that include hearts) and tell the children that you have hidden lots of hearts around the setting for the children to find
- Give each child a basket or tub to collect the hearts, ensure you place the hearts both indoors and outdoors
- Once the children have exhausted the search bring them back together and count out the number of hearts they each found
- Talk about their search e.g. The highest place they found a heart
- Pick up a heart and talk about how Valentine's Day is about showing that you care about somebody
- Ask 'how do you care for people?' and give an example for yourself e.g. I care for my dog by feeding and walking him every day
- Support the children to think of ways they care for others, e.g. sharing toys.

Extending the activity

Create your own 'Caring/Kindness Tree'. Write on individual leaves to show acts of kindness and caring that the children have demonstrated to others.

Working with Babies

Create a Valentine's Day themed sensory tray.

You could include:

- Red/pink Sand
- Pink/red/purple rice (colour using poster paint)
- Cut out paper cards – use different materials for the hearts such as corrugated card, sand paper etc.
- Feathers
- Strings of beads (red/pink)
- Red containers and spoons
- Use an ice tray and food colouring to create red coloured ice cubes
- Look around your setting to find further ideas to excite the babies' interest in your Valentine's Day themed sensory tray.