

Making houses and homes

Support children to feel a sense of pride and identity in their own home.

Children have been spending more time at home during the COVID-19 pandemic and finding ways to support their social and emotional development has never been more important.

Children will feel a sense of pride when building a model of their own home.

Where we live and who we live with are such an important part of who we are. Homes are not simply the materials that shelter us. They harbour our happy times and our more challenging times. As they say, home is where the heart is!



Learning aims

- Encourage children to talk about their own homes and community life and find out about other children's experiences
- Build confidence in talking to other children when playing and communicating freely about their home experiences
- Explore different textures and extend vocabulary i.e. rough and smooth, tall and wide
- Build on their concentration skills and creative abilities with colours and shapes
- Teach children the skills they need to use equipment safely i.e. scissors and glue
- Promote an interest in stories with increasing attention and recall
- Build on children's imagination during pretend play as they use talk to describe a box as their home
- Begin to recognise special times or events with family and friends.

Resources

- Cardboard boxes (all shapes and sizes)
- Lolly sticks
- Paint
- Green tissue paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- Paper
- Sellotape.

Activity outline

- Start to collect different shaped cardboard boxes
- Flatten one large piece of cardboard to use as the surface to enable all the children to work together
- Allow the children to create a model of their own home using the boxes, paints, scissors and glue
- Use lolly sticks and tissue paper for trees and plants
- Stick each house down with glue or sellotape
- Cut out paper shapes for windows and doors.

Extending the activity

- **Maths:** Talk about the different sizes and shapes of the houses - Count the windows and doors on each house
- **Literacy:** Talk about homes featured in stories, such as The Three Little Pigs and The House That Jack Built - Read poems, such as The Old Women Who Lived in a Shoe, share images and discuss unusual homes.