

Disclaimer: Activities with children must always be risk assessed, including for allergies or choking. Children must always have adequate supervision. Resources and materials must always be appropriate for children's age and stage of development.

Developing a sustainable nursery

Here are some top tips to help you move towards a more sustainable way of working.

1. Establish a recycling system in the setting
2. Reduce consumption by reusing items where possible. For example, encouraging the use of re-useable water bottles by staff and children where possible, or re-use plastic water bottles for outdoor water play, plant pots or bird feeders
3. Where possible buy in bulk to reduce packaging waste
4. Monitor food waste and adjust menus to better reflect differing tastes, preferences and portion sizes
5. Introduce some indoor plants. Indoor plants can boost oxygen levels and remove carbon dioxide
6. Create an energy conservation policy and share this with all staff. This could include turning off lights, changing to LED lightbulbs, ensuring office computers are turned off at the end of the day, using a reliable provider of 'green' electricity from renewable sources etc.
7. Encourage sustainable travel by promoting alternatives to staff and families such as carpooling, cycling or walking
8. Where possible, move to a paperless office. Think about what needs to be printed and what could be kept on a desktop or cloud based system
9. Look out for eco-friendly and biodegradable craft products
10. Don't always feel you have to buy new resources. Local charity shops regularly have lots of items you could use
11. Use a range of natural materials for play, like conkers, pine cones, or sticks
12. If you have outdoor space, consider growing some flowers, fruit or vegetables.



Find more resources at www.ndna.org.uk/hub/myndna