

Ice Play

Activity: Ice play

Resources needed: Access to freezer - plastic bowls/containers - food colouring/paint - animals (sea creatures for this activity) - tray or bowl to put ice and animals in

What you need to do: Child/children can help support you to fill the bowls/containers with water and the paint/food colouring - place bowls and containers and leave for a few hours until frozen - take out bowls and containers and place into bowl or tray - get child/children to check on ice to see when it starts to melt - ask children what they see, ask them how long they think it will take the ice to melt from the different containers/bowls - ask children to place in the sea/water animals e.g. fish, sharks, octopus - children can then play with animals in the ice once it begins to melt, this is when you can support them to take ice out of bowls/containers - get children to talk about the animals they are playing with, where the animals live e.g. is it cold? What kind of weather do they see where they live? What food do you think they eat?

Links to EYFS areas of development: When doing this activity your child will be working on the following development areas: Expressive art and design, communication and language, mathematics, understanding of the world.

What your child will get from the activity: Looking at where animals live and their environment - sensory play with the ice you can ask children how it feels, is it cold, warm, hard, mushy? - exploring how the ice mixes with the colours, what can children see, what colours can they see? - use of small world play with the animals - extend learning by using with different textures or items in the ice e.g. rice, pasta, small toys - can get children to use household cutlery/utensil (with supervision) to try and get to the rice, pasta and toys (excavation)

