

Positive Eye

An exciting multi-sensory journey on a boat

Including pre-braille within a multi-sensory literacy approach



Photo of cardboard boat, mast and life buoy

Materials required:

Collect flippers, cagoule, hats and gloves, wellington boots, telescope (two cardboard tubes) fishing net, fish shapes, homemade fishing rod, real fish, lifebuoy, shells, small rocks, sand, buckets, souwester, torch etc. Make a picnic to take on the boat trip, collect in a basket, cloth, cutlery, plates, bowls, napkins, fruit, sandwiches, cake etc. Siren, horn, sail cloth, ripcord fabric (to create sails)

Star fish



Cardboard anchor



Shells

Flippers



Fishing net

Life Buoy

How to create the concept of the boat adventure

- Write a simple song or rhyme about going on a journey on a boat
- Make a cardboard boat along with the child you are working with. Create from an old cardboard box and use a cardboard tube wrapped with fabric or foil to create the mast. Decorate the boat with shiny circular portholes and ropes tied to the side. Make an anchor from cardboard and cover in foil.



Photograph of cardboard boat with tactile portholes

Tactile discrimination/fine motor

- Sort shells, discriminate by texture, shape, size
- Sort rocks - big and little
- Sort rocks and shells, focus on finding the odd one out
- Cut out fish shapes, decorate with different textures, rough, smooth, silky etc for discriminating and sorting
- Feel the textures of the cagoule, wellington boots, hat and gloves, lifebuoy etc
- Pair gloves, wellington boots, oars
- Bury shells and rocks in sand to be discovered
- Set picnic out, take items in and out of the basket, place plates, cups, bowls, cutlery on the cloth, open lids on boxes, unscrew bottle lids
- Peel banana, hold fruit and sandwiches in hands, grasp grapes between fingers and thumb
- Help to make sandwiches, spread butter, add fillings

Tactile pictures basket (left), sandwiches (right)





Tactile pictures: plastic plate (left); two buns (right)

Maximise the learning opportunities

- Feel range of toy boats, feel cloth used for sails.
- Pretend to row the boat – sing 'Row row row the boat.'
- Simulate the rocking motion of a boat
- Play with boats on water tank, include use of battery operated boat if possible, listen to the splish-splash of the water

Tactile pictures of boat (left), hat (right)



- Play racing the boats across the water
- Fan to create wind on face, as if on a boat
- Dress up in sailing wear, cagoule, wellington boots, peaked cap, souwester, stripy t-shirts, binoculars
- Weather on boat – rainy, sunny, windy – simulate with fan, bellows, air pump on voile, streamers, balloons for wind. Hairdryer for warm air
- Simulate rain – watering can on tin tray, simulate wind with fan
- Simulate thunder by banging drums or clapping cymbals
- Honk the horn and sound the siren

Models of lighthouse keeper, lighthouse, seagull and basket (left)

Models of sea bed, fish, and lobster nets set on pebbles in plastic tray (right)



Model of telescope and horn