

Understanding Our Provision Model



Three types of provision:

Type	What it is	When it changes	Purpose
Continuous Provision	Core areas available all year with consistent resources	Resources refreshed but area remains	Develops fundamental skills; children can practice and master over time
Enhanced Provision	Continuous provision with added resources linked to current theme/learning	Changes every 1-3 weeks or when children's interest wanes	Deepens learning related to current topics; maintains engagement
Focused Provision	Adult-led or adult-initiated activities targeting specific skills	Changes daily/weekly based on assessment	Addresses gaps; teaches new skills; extends learning

Continuous Provision Map

Indoor Areas:

Area	Core Resources examples	Areas of Learning Supported	Key Skills Developed
Mark Making & Writing	• Variety of paper (lined, plain, shaped) • Pencils, crayons, felt tips, chalk • Whiteboards and pens • Letter formation cards • Name cards • Grapheme mat • Clipboards • Envelopes, postcards	Literacy: Emergent writing, letter formation, phonics PD: Fine motor, pencil grip C&L: Mark-making for meaning PSED: Independence, concentration	• Pencil control • Letter formation • Writing for purpose • Fine motor strength • Sustained concentration
Book Area	• Range of fiction, non-fiction, poetry • Books linked to current theme • Comfortable seating (cushions, bean bags) • Puppets • Audio books and headphones • Book display (face-out)	Literacy: Love of reading, comprehension, book handling C&L: Listening, vocabulary PSED: Self-regulation, quiet time UW: Knowledge of the world	• Book handling • Listening skills • Comprehension • Vocabulary development • Love of reading
Maths	• Numicon • Counting objects (bears, cubes, natural items) • Number lines (0-10, 0-20) • Dice, dominoes • Measuring tools (rulers, tape measures, scales) • 2D and 3D shapes • Number formation cards	Maths: Number, shape, measure, pattern C&L: Mathematical language PD: Fine motor (manipulating objects) PSED: Turn-taking in games	• Number recognition • Counting • Subitising • Shape recognition • Measuring • Pattern making

Creative Area	• Variety of paper (different sizes, colours, textures) • Paint • Brushes (various sizes) • Glue (sticks, PVA) • Scissors • Collage materials (fabric, buttons, sequins) • Junk modelling boxes • Playdough and tools	EAD: Exploring media, representing ideas PD: Fine motor, tool use C&L: Describing creations PSED: Independence, creativity Maths: Shape, pattern	• Fine motor control • Tool use (scissors, glue) • Creativity • Representation • Problem-solving
Construction Area	• Wooden blocks (unit blocks) • Duplo/Lego • Magnetic tiles • Connectors (Mobilo) • Small world vehicles • Building plans/photos • Measuring tapes	Maths: Shape, space, measure, pattern PD: Gross and fine motor, spatial awareness C&L: Collaborative talk, explaining PSED: Collaboration, perseverance UW: Design, engineering	• Spatial reasoning • Problem-solving • Collaboration • Perseverance • Design skills
Role Play Area	• Home corner furniture (kitchen, table, chairs) • Dressing up clothes (variety of cultures, jobs) • Dolls • Play food • Pots, pans, utensils • Till, money • Bags, baskets	C&L: Dialogue, storytelling, vocabulary PSED: Social skills, collaboration, empathy Literacy: Reading/writing in role Maths: Money, counting UW: Roles, communities	• Social interaction • Imagination • Vocabulary • Turn-taking • Empathy
Small World Area	• Farm animals and farm • Dinosaurs • People figures (diverse) • Vehicles (cars, trains, planes) • Natural materials (pebbles, logs, fabric) • Baskets for sorting	C&L: Storytelling, narrative PSED: Emotional expression through play Literacy: Story language Maths: Sorting, counting UW: Animals, habitats, communities	• Narrative skills • Imagination • Emotional literacy • Fine motor • Sorting/classifying

Investigation	• Magnifying glasses • Mirrors • Magnets • Scales and balances • Measuring jugs • Funnels, tubes • Natural objects (shells, pine cones, stones) • Torches • Colour paddles	UW: Scientific enquiry, observation Maths: Measuring, comparing C&L: Questioning, explaining Literacy: Recording findings PSED: Curiosity, concentration	• Observation • Questioning • Predicting • Testing • Recording
Malleable/Sensory Area	• Playdough (homemade, changed weekly) • Tools (cutters, rollers, scissors) • Sand • Water • Containers, scoops, funnels • Rice, pasta, lentils (rotated)	PD: Fine motor, hand strength Maths: Capacity, volume, measuring C&L: Descriptive language (texture) PSED: Calming, concentration EAD: Creating, representing	• Hand strength • Fine motor control • Sensory exploration • Concentration • Creativity

Outdoor Areas:

Area	Core Resources examples	Areas of Learning Supported	Key Skills Developed
Physical Play Zone	• Climbing frame • Balance beams • Bikes, scooters, trikes • Hoops • Balls • Cones	PD: Gross motor, strength, balance, coordination PSED: Risk-taking, confidence, turn-taking Maths: Positional language	• Gross motor skills • Balance • Coordination • Spatial awareness • Risk assessment
Outdoor Creative Area	• Large brushes and rollers • Water and paint • Chalks • Large paper • Natural materials	EAD: Large-scale art, creativity PD: Gross motor, arm strength C&L: Describing creations Maths: Patterns, shapes	• Gross motor control • Creativity • Mark-making • Representation
Outdoor Construction	• Large blocks • Crates • Planks • Tyres • Fabric/tarpaulin • Pegs, rope	Maths: Shape, space, measure PD: Gross motor, strength, coordination C&L: Collaborative planning PSED: Teamwork, problem-solving	• Problem-solving • Collaboration • Strength • Engineering concepts • Spatial reasoning
Mud Kitchen/Water Play	• Mud kitchen setup • Pots, pans, utensils • Water tray • Containers, funnels, tubes • Natural materials (leaves, twigs, petals)	Maths: Capacity, measuring, counting C&L: Imaginative language PD: Fine and gross motor UW: Materials, mixing, changing PSED: Collaboration	• Measuring • Pouring • Mixing • Imagination • Sensory exploration
Gardening Area	• Raised beds/planters • Child-sized tools (spades, rakes, trowels) • Watering cans • Seeds and bulbs • Compost • Plant labels	UW: Plant growth, life cycles, seasons Literacy: Labels, instructions Maths: Measuring, counting PSED: Responsibility, patience • PD: Gross motor, tool use	• Observation • Responsibility • Scientific enquiry • Patience • Tool use
Nature/Investigation Area	• Magnifying glasses • Identification charts • Collection pots • Clipboards and pencils	UW: Natural world, observation, habitats Literacy: Recording findings Maths: Counting, sorting C&L: Describing observations	• Observation • Classification • Recording • Respect for nature • Questioning

Autumn 1: All About Me / Starting School

Adult Focus This Half-Term:

- Supporting children to write their names
- Encouraging talk about families (respecting all family structures)
- Developing emotion vocabulary
- Building relationships and settling into routines

Area	Potential enhancements	Learning Focus	Vocabulary
Writing	• "All About Me" book templates • Family photo frames to draw/write about • Name tracing cards	Writing names, initial sounds, simple captions about self and family	name, family, like, me, my
Role Play	Home Corner • Diverse family photos • Baby dolls and care items • Family meal props	Playing out family scenarios, caring roles, family vocabulary	family, mum, dad, baby, sister, brother, care, love
Small World	• Family figures • Dollhouse • Family vehicles	Creating family narratives, exploring relationships	family, home, together, care
Creative Area	• Mirrors for self-portraits • Skin-tone paints and crayons • Hair materials (wool, yarn) for collage	Self-portraits, representing self, celebrating differences	portrait, face, eyes, nose, hair, skin, unique
Investigation	• Mirrors (various sizes) • "My body" posters • Measuring height chart	Exploring own features, measuring, comparing	measure, tall, short, same, different, body parts
Maths	• Family counting (how many in your family?) • Comparing heights activity	Counting, comparing, measuring	count, more, fewer, taller, shorter
Book Area	• "My Hair" by Hannah Lee • "The Colour Monster Starts School" • "All About Families" books	Reading about self, families, emotions	feelings, family, school, different, same
Outdoor	• Chalk for drawing around bodies • Measuring heights against wall • Mirrors in nature area	Large-scale self-portraits, measuring, observation	big, small, measure, draw, outline

- Retelling familiar stories with actions and props
- Sequencing language (first, next, then, finally)
- Exploring different celebrations respectfully
- Beginning to write simple captions

Autumn 2: Once Upon a Time / Celebrations

Area	Potential enhancements	Learning Focus	Vocabulary
Writing	• Story writing templates (beginning, middle, end) • Speech bubbles • Character description frames • Christmas card making	Story writing, sequencing, captions, cards	story, character, beginning, middle, end, first, next, then
Role Play	Story Café / Theatre • Puppets (Three Little Pigs, etc.) • Story props (crowns, wands, cloaks) • Tickets, programmes • Stage area	Retelling stories, performing, using story language	perform, audience, character, story, act, puppet
Small World	• Three Little Pigs scene • Story character figures • Story settings (castle, forest)	Acting out familiar tales, sequencing, narrative	wolf, pig, house, straw, sticks, bricks, huff, puff
Creative Area	• Materials to create story props • Diwali diva lamps (clay) • Rangoli patterns • Christmas decorations	Creating props, exploring festivals, patterns	decorate, pattern, celebrate, festival, diva, rangoli
Investigation	• Materials testing (straw, sticks, bricks) • "Which is strongest?" investigation	Testing materials, predicting, observing	strong, weak, test, predict, because
Maths Area	• Counting to 3 (Three Little Pigs) • Ordinal numbers (first, second, third) • Pattern making (rangoli)	Counting, ordering, patterns	first, second, third, pattern, repeat, symmetry
Book Area	• Traditional tales collection • "Anansi and the Golden Pot" • "Babushka" • Diwali and Christmas books	Reading traditional tales, comparing celebrations	tale, traditional, celebrate, festival, Christmas, Diwali
Construction	• Building houses (Three Little Pigs) • Testing stability	Design, problem-solving, testing	build, strong, stable, collapse, design
Outdoor	• Acting out stories in larger space • Building houses with crates/planks	Physical storytelling, gross motor, collaboration	act, perform, build, strong, together

Spring 1: People Who Help Us

Adult Focus This Half-Term

- Learning about different jobs and roles in the community
- Developing respect and appreciation for people who help us
- Using topic vocabulary linked to community helpers
- Asking and answering questions about occupations

Area	Potential enhancements	Learning Focus	Vocabulary
Writing	• Job application forms • message pads • appointment cards • emergency call sheets	Mark making for purpose, recording information, writing labels and messages	doctor, nurse, firefighter, police, help, job, community
Role Play	• Doctor surgery, vet, post office, police station resources	Exploring community roles and responsibilities	patient, appointment, deliver, rescue, protect, care
Small World	• Community helper figures • emergency vehicles • hospital and station buildings	Storytelling and understanding different occupations	ambulance, firefighter, police officer, teacher, paramedic
Creative Area	• Design a uniform • badge making • emergency vehicle models • community helper portraits	Representing people and occupations creatively	uniform, badge, equipment, role, helper
Investigation	• First aid resources • X-rays • Stethoscopes • magnifying tools, • fingerprint activities	Exploring how people help and solve problems	healthy, investigate, examine, protect, care
Maths	• Counting emergency vehicles • sorting occupations • measuring equipment • number call games	Counting, sorting, comparing and problem solving	more, fewer, measure, compare, number
Book Area	• "Zog and the Flying Doctors", "People Who Help Us" non-fiction books, "A Superhero Like You"	Understanding professions through stories and information texts	community, occupation, responsibility, service
Construction	• Build hospitals • fire stations • police stations • rescue centres	Collaborative building and problem solving	build, design, station, rescue, structure
Outdoor	• Emergency vehicle obstacle course • delivery routes • rescue missions	Teamwork, gross motor skills and role play	rescue, deliver, route, emergency, community

Spring 2: Ready, Steady, Grow!

Adult Focus This Half-Term:

- Scientific enquiry skills (predict, observe, record)
- Measuring and recording
- Life cycle vocabulary and understanding
- Using 'because' to explain

Area	Potential enhancements	Learning Focus	Vocabulary
Writing	• Plant labels and signs • Planting instructions • Plant diaries • Life cycle sequencing cards	Writing labels, instructions, recording observations	plant, seed, grow, water, soil, label, instruction
Role Play	Garden Centre • Play plants (real and artificial) • Seed packets • Till and money • Gardening tools • Price labels • Shopping lists	Shopping, money, plant vocabulary, customer service	buy, sell, plant, seed, price, customer, gardener
Small World	• Farm with growing crops • Life cycle figures (butterfly, frog, plant) • Miniature garden	Life cycles, growth, sequencing	life cycle, egg, caterpillar, chrysalis, butterfly, tadpole, frog
Creative Area	• Observational drawing of plants • Life cycle wheels • Flower printing • Natural materials collage	Observational art, representing growth, using natural materials	observe, draw, detail, petal, leaf, stem
Investigation	Planting Investigation • Seeds to plant • Different conditions (light/dark, water/no water) • Magnifying glasses • Measuring tools • Recording sheets	Scientific enquiry: what do plants need? Observing, measuring, recording	investigate, predict, observe, measure, grow, change, because
Maths	• Measuring plant growth • Counting seeds, petals, leaves • Ordering by size (seeds, plants) • Recording data on charts	Measuring, counting, recording, comparing	measure, tall, taller, tallest, count, record, data
Book Area	• "The Tiny Seed" by Eric Carle • "A Practical Present for Philippa Pheasant" • "Lulu Loves Flowers" • Non-fiction plant books	Reading about growth, life cycles, non-fiction features	seed, grow, plant, life cycle, root, shoot, flower
Malleable	• Green playdough with seeds, twigs • Making flowers and plants • Garden scenes in sand	Representing plants, fine motor	create, make, plant, garden, grow
Outdoor	• Planting in raised beds • Watering cans • Plant labels • Observing spring changes • Bug hunt (minibeasts waking up)	Real planting, caring for plants, observing nature	plant, water, care, grow, spring, minibeast

Summer 1: Ticket to Ride

Adult Focus This Half-Term:

- Directional language (left, right, forward, backward)
- Road safety
- Money (buying tickets)
- Map reading and creating

Area	Potential enhancements	Learning Focus	Vocabulary
Writing	• Tickets, passports, boarding passes • Destination labels • Journey stories • Postcards • Maps to label	Writing for purpose, labels, simple stories	ticket, journey, travel, destination, passport, map
Role Play	Airport / Train Station • Tickets and passports • Suitcases • Travel posters • Till and money • Seating for passengers	Role-play travel scenarios, money, customer service	travel, journey, passenger, pilot, driver, ticket, airport, station
Small World	• Vehicles (cars, trains, planes, boats) • Road mat/train track • Airport/station setup • People figures	Creating journeys, positional language, storytelling	vehicle, journey, road, track, airport, station, passenger
Creative Area	• Designing vehicles (junk modelling) • Creating maps • Travel posters • Passport photos	Design, representation, creativity	design, create, vehicle, map, poster, journey
Investigation	• How do vehicles move? • Ramps and cars (speed investigation) • Floating and sinking (boats) • Magnets (magnetic cars)	Scientific enquiry: forces, movement, materials	fast, slow, float, sink, push, pull, ramp, investigate
Maths	• Counting passengers/vehicles • Measuring distances • Timetables • Money (buying tickets)	Counting, measuring, time, money	count, measure, distance, time, money, timetable
Book Area	• "Last Stop on Market Street" • "Naughty Bus" • "Astro Girl" • Non-fiction transport books	Reading about journeys, transport, space	journey, transport, bus, train, plane, rocket, space
Construction	• Building vehicles • Creating roads/tracks • Designing airports/stations	Design, engineering, problem-solving	build, design, vehicle, strong, wheels, move
Outdoor	• Large-scale vehicle building (crates, planks) • Bikes and scooters (road safety) • Obstacle courses (journeys) • Chalk roads and maps	Gross motor, road safety, mapping	ride, safe, road, journey, map, direction, careful

Summer 2: Sun, Sea and Sand

Adult Focus This Half-Term:

- Comparing environments (hot/cold, beach/jungle/UK)
- Transition preparation (celebrating achievements)
- Independence and resilience
- Extended writing (recounts, stories)

Area	Potential enhancements	Learning Focus	Vocabulary
Writing	• Postcards from the beach • Beach signs • Ocean fact files • Ice cream menus	Postcards, non-fiction, menus	beach, sea, sand, postcard, holiday, ocean, creature
Role Play	Beach Café / Ice Cream Shop • Ice cream props • Menu • Till and money • Beach items (buckets, spades, towels) • Sunglasses, sun hats	Role-play, money, ordering, beach safety	ice cream, flavour, scoop, order, beach, sun, safe, shade
Small World	• Ocean creatures • Beach scene (sand, shells, pebbles) • Boats • Underwater scene	Exploring ocean life, habitats, storytelling	ocean, sea, creature, fish, crab, shell, beach, sand
Creative Area	• Beach art (shells, sand, pebbles) • Ocean scenes (painting, collage) • Observational drawing of shells • Sandcastle designs	Representing beach/ocean, observational art, natural materials	beach, ocean, shell, sand, wave, create, observe, detail
Investigation	Floating and Sinking • Water tray • Objects to test • Boats to design • Shells and pebbles to explore • Magnifying glasses	Scientific enquiry: properties of materials, observation	float, sink, heavy, light, predict, test, because, observe
Maths	• Measuring sandcastles • Capacity (filling buckets) • Counting shells • Sorting sea creatures • Money (ice cream shop)	Measuring, capacity, counting, sorting, money	measure, full, empty, capacity, count, sort, money
Book Area	• "Tropical Terry" • "Meet the Oceans" • "The Big Book of the Blue" • Beach and ocean non-fiction	Reading about different environments, ocean life, comparing	ocean, tropical, beach, creature, habitat, compare, different
Malleable	• Kinetic sand (beach play) • Blue water (ocean) • Shells and pebbles • Ocean creatures	Sensory exploration, fine motor, creativity	sand, wet, dry, smooth, rough, texture
Outdoor	• Sand pit (beach play) • Water play (ocean) • Building sandcastles • Beach obstacle course • Shells and pebbles to explore	Gross motor, sensory play, measuring, creativity	beach, sand, water, build, measure, dig, pour