



Take It Outside: Summer

Investigation: Rainbow Treasure Hunt



Introduction

This is an activity inspired by the Twinkl original story, **'Treasures in the Garden'**. You may like to familiarise your children with the story in advance of the activity.

You will need:

Rainbow Treasure Hunt sheet. Alternatively, paint colour swatches can also be used for this activity.

Key Questions

- What did you find?
- What did you notice?
- Compare your results with a friend. What was the same? What was different?
- Would you find the same if you did the treasure hunt at another time of year? Explain your answer.

What to do:

1. Set the scene by reading the following extract from the poem 'The Rainbow' by Walter de la Mare.

**"I saw the lovely arch
of Rainbow span the sky
The gold sun burning,
As the rain swept by."**

2. Discuss the poem. What is Walter de la Mare describing? Discuss the interesting words 'arch, swept, span'. You could say that a rainbow is one of nature's treasures. Why?
3. Remind children of the Twinkl original story, 'Treasures in the Garden'. What treasures did Holly find?
4. Introduce the Rainbow treasure hunt sheet. Prepare the sheet in advance by adding double-sided tape, or allow children to add PVA glue. Alternatively, paint colour swatches could be used for children to match, inspiring deeper discussions about tone of colour. Explain that the challenge is to find some things outside which match



the different colours. Will some colours be harder to match than others? Agree rules as a group that are appropriate to your setting, e.g. pick only one flower, only take things that are no longer needed and wash hands after treasure hunt.

5. Children should complete their Rainbow Treasure Hunt individually, in pairs or in small groups, dependent upon need.
6. Bring the class together. Think, pair and share findings using the key questions above.

Ways to Support

Some children may need help with fine motor skills. Enlarge the treasure hunt sheet to A3 or cut into strips so that children can select one colour to search for at a time. Natural colours (green/brown) will be easier to find.

Ways to Extend

Children could sort their items by tone and shade, from light to dark. Provide powder paint in your outdoor area and challenge children to mix colours.

Curriculum Links

Science: Observe changes across the four seasons.

English: Listen and respond appropriately to adults and their peers, give well-structured descriptions, explanations and narratives for different purposes, including for expressing feelings.