Topic Home learning – Autumn 2 Week 2

Learning: Science	To sort animals based on where they live.

Have ready:

Equipment for sorting task: Small world animals - Land animals: three to five figures such as a giraffe, elephant, sheep or horse. Water animals: three to five figures such as a shark, whale, fish or seahorse. Air animals: three to five figures, including a variety of birds or flying insects.

Habitat representations:

Land: designate a grassy area or soil, a tuff tray or a small tray filled with soil to represent land. Water: set up a water tray or fill a small container to represent water. Air: use a washing line with pegs or prepare a high-up area with twigs and leaves to represent the air.

If no small world animal figures are available, pre-cut photos.

Activity:

Explain to the children that they will sort animals into their respective homes: land, water or air. Point out the three designated spaces where animals should be placed.

Hand each animal to the children one at a time and ask them the following questions before allowing them to place it in the correct place: land, water or air.

Questions

What is the name of the animal? (Share unfamiliar names such as turtle, panda or toucan to introduce new vocabulary.)

How do you know the animal lives on land? (It has four legs for walking on land.)

How do you know the animal lives in water? (It has fins instead of legs, which help it to swim.)

How do you know the animal lives in the air? (It has wings that help it to fly.)

Support and challenge

Share a suitable non-fiction book about habitats before the lesson to practise key vocabulary.

Prompt the children to name animals and describe their features while sorting them.

Encourage the children to expand on land, water or air by describing where the animals might live in more detail. For example, the hedgehog is a land animal; it lives in the woodland under leaves or inside hollow logs.

Vocabulary: Desert, ocean, polar, sort, woodland

Learning outcomes:

Understanding the world: Explore the natural world around them; Describe what they see, hear and feel whilst outside.

ELG: The Natural World: Explore the natural world around them, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants.

Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class.

Characteristics of effective learning: Active learning and creating and thinking critically.