

An Domhan Beag Small world



Foghlaim/learning

Learning across the six areas of the curriculum can take place in the small world play area. It is an area which offers opportunities for children to:

- * Work as part of a group, take turns and co-operate
- * Have conversations and discussions and extend their vocabulary
- * Count and use mathematical language in meaningful situations
- * Become familiar with the properties of materials through their imaginative play
- * Engage in a wide range of imaginative activities
- * Develop their physical skills as they use a range of small world play resources

Pleanáil/Planning

Plan for children to have

- Daily access to a wide variety of stimulating and exciting small- world play situations
- Opportunities to use the area in many ways, including use of mats, trays, table tops, outdoors and floor space
- Space to work collaboratively with small world play equipment in larger groups
- Time to create and modify small world scenarios and to sometimes revisit them at a later time or date
- Diversity in presentation. Plan to provide small world play with other resources such as construction equipment, plants and other materials
- Monitor the use of small play equipment and use it to inform future planning



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altram
guth na luathbhlianta



Aiseanna/Resources

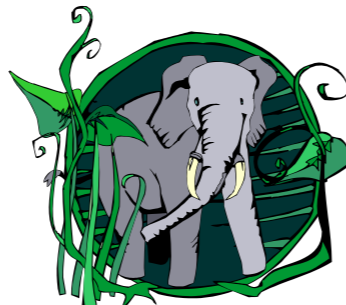
Basic resources should include:

- Photographs and posters of animals, vehicles, dinosaurs & people
- Information texts about animals, vehicles, dinosaurs, people and the wider community
- Wild animals
- Farm animals
- Space craft and aliens
- Assorted puppets
- Plastic trees
- Precious treasure- beads, nuggets, spray painted dried butter beans, coins
- Assorted play mats- farm, street, airport
- Assorted natural objects- logs, branches, cones, shells, plants, pebbles, gravel
- Assorted trays- a builder's tray, a potting tray, a green gro-bag tray & a gravel tray (all available from DIY or garden centres)
- Dinosaurs
- Railway track & trains
- Garage and vehicles
- Airport with planes and helicopters
- Houses with furniture
- Assorted small people
- Wooden village
- Castle or fort
- Minibeasts
- Sealife



Suíomh/Location

- Position the small world play area in as large a space as possible, preferably in a space where the children will not be disturbed
- Many naíonraí use this area of provision flexibly. Children can choose to play with their small world scenes on a table or on a rug or play mat on the floor.
- Staff often locate the small world area near the construction area to encourage children to use resources in a more imaginative way and support their learning by moving resources between areas



Tacaíocht foghlama/ supporting learning

The adult role:

- Ensure that the small play area and resources are safe and well maintained
- Create an area that stimulates children's creative and imaginative play
- Plan to spend time in the small play area observing children's play and where appropriate enhance and extend their play
- Create situations that encourage talk in an imaginative context
- Ask open-ended questions that encourage discussion, imagination and creativity
- Introduce, use and reinforce language which is specific to learning in this area

Eispéireas agus gníomhaíochtaí/experiences and activities

Small world play should be available every session. Staff should plan experiences that extend children's knowledge and understanding, skills and attitudes.

- Fill a gro-bag tray with potting compost. Add some bark, chippings, sticks, rocks, pebbles and assorted plants and leaves to create a wild garden area. Add a shallow plastic tray and fill it with water. Hide assorted plastic minibeasts for the children to find. To extend this add laminated sheets with photographs of the minibeasts, encourage the children to record the location in which they found them.
- Drape jungle print from the wall over table. Place builder's tray on the table. Fill tray with sand and create a pool of water. Create a jungle scene using stones, logs, branches, fir cones and shells. Add plants and wild animals. Place information texts near the scene. Encourage children to explore the scene.

Teanga/language

Introduce, use and reinforce the specific language of learning in the small world play area

caladh garáiste meicneoir feirm ferimeoir iarnród
tiománaí traenach othar obráid rúidbhealach teach
seomraí sráidbhaile caisleán ainmneacha áirithe
d'ainmhithe, feithidí, dineasáir srl

harbour garage mechanic farm farmer railway
train driver patient operation runway house
rooms village castle names of specific animals, in-
sects, dinosaurs etc

