

How to walk on ice?

Main Focus	Science – investigating materials that do not slip on ice
Topic	Art and Design – recording rubbings of shoe patterns
Suitable for	Reception

Learning Objectives

4) Investigates places, objects, materials and living things by using all of the senses as appropriate. Identifies some features and talks about those features she/he likes and dislikes

Resources

- Different types of shoes
- Blocks of ice created by freezing water in a margarine tub
- Blocks of balsa wood
- Strips of cardboard
- Drawing paper
- Crayons

Introduction

Discuss with the children if they have any special shoes or boots to wear when it is icy outside or if it has been snowing. Get the children to describe why they wear the special footwear.

Show the children a range of different types of footwear i.e. wellingtons, trainers, plimsolls, walking boots etc. Discuss with the children which of the shoes would be the best to wear when it is icy outside. Turn over each type of footwear and show the children the patterns on the bottom. Tell the children that they should wear shoes that help grip when walking about when it is icy. Get the children to describe the different patterns on the bottom of the shoes.

Guided Group Work

Provide the children with a block of balsa wood. Get them to glue on strips of cardboard to make a grip pattern on the block. Tell the children to make a pattern to help them walk about on ice without slipping. Show the children the bottoms of walking shoes to give them ideas for patterns to use. Provide the children with a block of ice made from freezing water in a margarine tub. Get the children to test their patterns by moving the blocks of wood on top of the ice.

Independent and Group Activities

Leave out some different types of footwear. Get the children to make rubbings of the different grips using crayons. Ask the children to cut out the footwear rubbings they have made. They can glue down the rubbings into two groups to show which shoes are good for walking on ice and which shoes will make you slip about.

Outdoor Activities

Provide the children with a collection of different types of shoes. Make a collection of footprints in the sand tray. Get the children to match up each footprint with the correct shoes.

Plenary

Get some children to hold up the rubbings that they have made for the rest of the class to identify which pattern provides the best grip for walking on ice.