

The Colour Cube

This is a very simple and versatile resource. You can use the colour cube at home in your garden, in a group or school setting or even out on a family walk.



Set up

Before starting out, this activity will involve finding and picking items from nature. Remind the children to be mindful of the effects of picking leaves or petals from plants- just pick one thing from each plant so as not to kill it. Also be aware of which plants may be poisonous (see poisonous plants list). Always wash hands after this activity and before eating or drinking.

Provide boundaries for where the children can find their colourful items as well as any particular areas to stay away from.

If in the garden or school setting rather than out on a walk, bring a white or light-coloured sheet for this activity.

N.B. You don't need to have the colour cube to do this resource. You can use paint colour swatches or cut out colourful images from magazines etc.

Let's go!

Roll the cube and whichever colour the cube lands on, ask the children to go and find that colour in nature. You can either give a time guide (e.g. 5mins) or make the group aware of a recall sound so they know when to come back together.

Bring all the objects together to review on the white sheet next. Here are some questions which may help with the discussion:

- Where was the item found?
- Do you know the name of the plant?

- What might the plant be using that colour for? (e.g. to attract insects)
- Do you know which insects or animals might like this plant?

Repeat the process with another roll and another colour find for as many times as you feel the children are engaged.

Review and extension

The sheet should now be filled with piles of different colours. You can invite the children's thoughts and comments as they look at the colour spectrum found in nature.

- Is anyone surprised by any of the items they've found?
- Did you see these colours in this area before you searched for them?
- What colour(s) do you like the best?
- What do the different colours and / or items make you feel?
- Did you enjoy finding these items?

The group might be inspired to make a picture (individually or together) from the different colours they have found.