

## Outdoor Learning Experience (Birth to 2 years)

<b>Learning experiences:</b> Touch, Feel and Listen (Part 2)	<b>Shared by:</b> Wong Seet Fun
<b>Environment:</b> Indoor or Outdoor greenery	<b>Estimated time:</b> 15 - 20 minutes
<b>Children's prior experiences:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children have felt and touched cornflour paste</li> <li>• Children have collected leaves from the previous outdoor experience</li> </ul>	<b>Suitable for:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 13 - 17 months old</li> </ul>
<b>What children will experience:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children will be able to see the coloured cornflour paste</li> <li>• Children will be able to feel the texture of the cornflour paste</li> <li>• Children will be able to observe the colour change when the 2 coloured cornflour paste are mixed</li> <li>• Children will be able to feel the texture of the leaves (loose parts)</li> <li>• Children will be able to hear the sound made by crushing of the leaves</li> <li>• Children will be able to enhance their fine motor and large muscles development</li> <li>• Children may show interest in the texture of the cornflour paste and the leaves</li> <li>• Children may show interest in the change in colour</li> <li>• Children may babble as if speaking a sentence or asking a question</li> </ul>	<b>EYDF Pillars:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Developing Child</li> <li>• The Intentional Programme</li> <li>• The Professional Educator</li> </ul>
<b>What you will need:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Picnic mat</li> <li>• Aprons or oversized T-shirts</li> <li>• 2 white colour plastic shallow trays with at least 2.5 cm in depth. May substitute with metal trays</li> <li>• 2-3 drawing papers per child</li> <li>• 2 coloured cornflour paste (yellow and blue)</li> <li>• 5 dried leaves per child (Flattened or non-flattened)</li> <li>• Wet wipes</li> </ul>	<b>Benefit:</b>  <u>Benefit:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The outdoor environment provides a sensorial experience, e.g., breeze, heat, light, shadow, outdoor sounds, sights, etc.</li> </ul> <u>Risk:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wet weather</li> </ul>

- First aid kit

**Instructions to prepare the Materials.**

**Cornflour paste**

- ¼ cup cornflour
- 1 ¼ cup water
- Food colouring
- optional ½ cup of water (add only if mixture is too thick)

**To prepare (Yellow) cornflour paste**

- Pour 3-4 drops of yellow food colouring into a cup of water and mix well.
- Pour mixture onto the cornflour and mix well.
- Cook over medium heat (stirring constantly) until mixture resembles a thick custard.
- Turn off the heat but continue to stir the mixture.
- Note: Add ½ cup of water if mixture is too thick and continue to stir over stove until the paste turn in to a good consistency.
- Remove mixture from stove to cool.
- Repeat the process to prepare for the Blue cornflour paste.

Cornflour paste can be stored in refrigerator for 3 days.

- insect bites
- Children may put items into their mouth

Management:

- Check selected area for presence of insects
- Engage parents' approval to apply insect repellents
- Ensure teachers have sight of the children at all times

**How to make it happen:**

1. Collect all materials required prior to the activity. Leaves to be picked together with the children during the outdoor walk a few days ago.
2. Assess the environment for risk factors prior to the activity on the actual day.
3. Prepare and set up the environment prior to bringing the children out.
4. Let the children sit on the picnic mat.
5. Put the tray on the mat in front of each child. One tray per child.
6. Put 2 spoonfuls of yellow cornflour paste onto the white tray. (possible extension: put drawing paper onto tray and put the coloured paste onto the paper. Display the art piece in class when it is dried)
7. Add 2 spoonfuls of blue cornflour paste onto the white tray.
8. Invite the child to pick the leaves from a basket.
9. Invite the child to place the leaves on top of the paste for exploration.

10. Clean each child's hands when the colour exploration is done.

Things you can say to the infant

*I see yellow, I see blue, I see green and I see you!*

- Put 2 spoonfuls of yellow cornflour paste onto the white tray.
- Children may show interest in what is on the tray and may babble as if speaking a sentence or asking a question

*Look at the colour on the tray. It is yellow/blue.*

*Shall we feel the texture of this paste?*

*Oh... It feels cold. It feels....*

*Shall we pat the paste? Shall we move our hands to the left and to the right? Here it goes, pat, pat, pat the paste...*

11. Add 2 spoonfuls of blue cornflour paste onto the white tray.

*Look at the colour on the tray. It is yellow/blue.*

*Shall we tap the paste? Shall we move our hands to the left and to the right? Here it goes, pat, pat, pat the paste...*

*What happened to the yellow paste? Can we find any blue colour?*

*Move your hand to the left and right. Wow! Look at the new colour! This colour is green now.*

12. Invite the child to pick the leaves from a basket.

*Look what I have over here. Do you remember these leaves? They are the leaves we picked a few days ago. Shall we place them on top of the paste?*

*Let's move our hands and feel the leaves and the paste. How do they feel? They feel different don't they?*

Note: If the cornflour paste and leave collage are on the drawing paper, the art piece will curl up when dry. Mount it on another piece of paper before displaying in the classroom.