

Dangerous Dinosaurs

Nursery (Spring)



Malleable/Fine Motor

Dinosaur swamp

Make slime using one litre of PVA glue, five teaspoons of bicarbonate of soda, green gel food colouring and 10 teaspoons of contact lens cleaning solution. Add this to a Tuff Tub with toy dinosaurs and pebbles for swampy dinosaur fun.

Model dinosaurs

Provide coloured play dough, googly eyes, matchsticks, feathers, pasta shapes and pipe cleaners for the children to create prehistoric animals.

Dinosaur prints

Provide children with salt dough and toy dinosaurs. Encourage children to explore making dinosaur prints in the dough. The dough can be baked in a warm oven to create dinosaur fossils.



Investigation

Frozen in time

Put a small dinosaur or prehistoric animal toy inside a balloon. Fill it with water and freeze. Remove the balloon and put the frozen egg in a tray and set the children the challenge of freeing the animal. Provide water sprays filled with warm water for the children to use.



Role play/Communication

Dinosaur Safari

Set up a role play safari area with camouflage netting large leaves, branches and log slices. Hide toy dinosaurs and provide, toy binoculars, a back pack, and a spotting book for spotting fun!



Outdoor

Dinosaur trails

Set up a dinosaur trail obstacle course in the outside area for the children to explore, using large log slices, crates and tunnels. You could even chalk a river for the children to cross on their journey.

Volcanoes

Provide a large roll of paper or plain fabric, pegged to a wall or frame for communal mark making or painting. Offer ready-mixed paints in red, orange and yellow, large brushes, rollers and spray bottles for the children to paint and mark make. You could even play atmospheric music on a tablet to inspire volcano paintings.

Dinosaur footprints

Attach dinosaur footprints made from pieces of thick card or foam to a pair of wellies. Provide trays of ready-mixed paint and rolls of paper in the outside area for children to create footprint trails.

Mud painting

If you have a muddy area, provide the children with sticks and pebbles to mark make with or create dinosaur fossils using the resources. Alternatively put mud, sticks and pebbles into a Tuff Tub for the children to explore. Take pictures of their creations to share with the other children.



Creative

Dinosaur art

Display pictures of dinosaurs and model dinosaurs to inspire children's artwork. Provide ready-mixed paint and collage materials for the children to create dinosaur pictures.

Colourful trails

Cover a Tuff Tub with paper and put small dots of red, yellow, blue and white ready-mixed paint in spaces around the tray. Add a selection of plastic toy dinosaurs for the children to make footprint trails.

Dinosaur printing

Provide ready-mixed paint in paint trays and a selection of resources for printing, including Duplo bricks, bubble wrap, cotton reels and corrugated cardboard. Invite the children to create different patterned dinosaurs using the printing resources.



Sand and water

Fossil finding

Put damp sand in a deep plastic tray. Hide toy dinosaurs in the sand and freeze overnight. Provide the children with brushes and lollipop sticks to excavate the dinosaurs from the frozen sand. Encourage the children to work together to get the dinosaurs out safely.

Nests

Create dinosaur eggs and add them to the sand tray filled with damp sand. Provide leaves, straw, twigs, ferns and branches for the children to make nests for the eggs.

Underwater worlds

Add a selection of toy dinosaurs, reptiles and sharks to the water tray for prehistoric underwater fun.



Reading/Writing

Dinosaur reading den

Create a dinosaur-themed reading den resourced with baskets of non-fiction books, stories and rhymes on the theme of dinosaurs. Add toy dinosaurs for the children to read to.



Construction and small world

Dinosaur worlds

Display toy dinosaurs, log slices, pebbles and branches. Provide wooden blocks for the children to build structures in which the dinosaurs can live. Take pictures of the dinosaur worlds to share with other children.



Mathematics

Dinosaur counting

Create a dinosaur counting and sorting collection for the children to explore. Include rubber sorting dinosaurs, numeral cards, wooden numerals, number lines, mathematical counting equipment and pots for sorting and counting.

