

Starry Night Nursery (Spring)



Malleable/Fine Motor area

Owls

Display images of owls and provide brown play dough, feathers, googly eyes and glass beads. Invite the children to use the resources to create owl models.

Aliens

Provide different coloured play dough, pipe cleaners and googly eyes for the children to make aliens.

Moon dough

Make moon dough by mixing eight cups of flour to one cup of baby oil. Add it to a Tuff Tub with moulds, small world space figures and 'moon rocks' for the children to explore.

Night sky gloop

Make night sky gloop by mixing cornflour and water. Add blue or black food colouring and silver and gold glitter. Put the gloop in a Tuff Tub for mark making fun.



Outdoor area

Emergency workers

Create an outside role play area with roadwork signs, traffic cones, traffic lights and vehicles. Provide reflective clothing, small battery-operated lights or lanterns and torches for the children to use. Encourage the children to make roads and routes to follow using the lights, chalk and cones.



Construction and small world area

Nocturnal animals

Create a woodland small world in a black out tent. Provide nocturnal toy animals and torches for the children to explore.



Reading/Writing area

Space stories

Create a space-themed reading den in a blackout tent or by using black fabric. Cut out stars from gold or silver card and use them to decorate the den with pictures of planets and battery-operated fairy lights. Resource the den with space-themed stories and non-fiction books for the children to share.

Light sabres

Create light sabres by attaching torches to long cardboard tubes. Model how to use the light sabres to create shapes and patterns in the air.



Role play/Communication area

Bedtime

Create a bedtime role play area using large cushions, pillows, duvets and night lights. Add pyjamas, onesies and bedtime stories for the children to explore in their play. Add dolls, baths, cradles, blankets, nappies, bottles, bedtime stories and night lights for the children to recreate bedtime routines.

Cosy dens

Make a cosy den filled with different fabrics for the children to explore. Add blankets, curtains, cushions, scarves, sheets and large pegs for the children to cuddle and feel or create cosy spaces.



Creative area

Lullabies

Create a sensory den in a dark space with night lights and soothing music for the children to relax in.

Sky painting

Display pictures of night skies. Provide black paper and a range of tools, including brushes, toothbrushes, straws and spray bottles. Let the children create night sky paintings with gold, silver and white ready-mixed paint, or attach large sheets of black paper to a wall for communal painting.



Sand and water area

Brushes

Add a range of toothbrushes and Duplo blocks to the water tray for the children to experiment with brushing different surfaces. Make the water bubbly by adding washing up liquid or bubble bath.

Bath time

Add bubble bath to the water tray and provide a selection of bath toys for the children to play with, including rubber ducks and wind up toys.

Catch a star

Add glitter, stars and sequins to the water tray. Freeze coloured water in star-shaped moulds, adding glitter and sequins for a magical feel. Offer nets and scoops for the children to 'catch a star'.



Investigation area

Galaxy bottles

Create galaxy sensory bottles for the children to explore by pouring equal quantities of baby oil and water mixed with a couple of drops of blue or black food colouring into a plastic bottle. Add glitter, stars, sequins, small glow sticks and hydrated water beads to the bottle and secure the lid of the bottle with tape or glue.

Coloured lights

Offer a selection of torches and coloured acetate filters, transparent sweet wrappers and tissue paper for the children to explore.



Mathematics area

Fill a container

Create a night sky sensory tray using black and blue-dyed rice mixed with stelline pasta. Provide the children with spoons, scoops and different sized containers to fill and compare.

