

Over 2's Activities

Animal Counting



Farmyard Sensory Counting Tray



Resources Needed:

- Dry sensory material (pasta, rice, polenta, salt etc.)
- Dish or a plate to put the materials in (the flatter the better)
- Food colouring
- Animals
- Paint brushes
- Picture reference of numbers (see below)

Duration:

Open ended, as long as children can keep their interest.

Intent:

- Practicing their mark making – the way they hold the brush or whatever tool they use.
- Practice marking out easy numbers.

Implementation:

Colour some rice or salt any colour of the child's choice, using food colouring. Place on a plate or dish. There needs to be enough that it covers the bottom in a layer, so you can



write in it. In turn present your child with a number for them to write in the dry material with the paint brush. Using the animals, place one cow, then two pigs, three sheep to show the child what each number represents. They can also try mark making a picture of the animals after doing their numbers. This activity can also be done with letters (and try matching a toy animal starting with that letter).

Keywords and Language:

Individual numbers, writing, mark making, animals, letters.

EYFS Learning Outcomes:

- Understanding the world
 - Plays with small world
- Physical
 - Shows control in using mark making tools
 - Imitates drawing shapes and lines
 - Begins to use tripod grip
- Communication and language
 - Learning new words rapidly, uses them with communicating
 - Responds to simple instructions
- Literacy
 - Distinguishes between the marks they make
 - Sometimes gives meaning to those marks
- Mathematics
 - Recites numbers in order to 10
 - Realises not only objects, but anything can be counted
 - Knows that a group of things change in quantity when things are added or taken away
- Personal, Social & Emotional
 - Begins to accept the needs of others, and can take turns and share resources
 - Shows confidence in asking adults for help
- Expressive arts and design
 - Beginning to be interested in a describe texture of things
 - Understands they can use lines to enclose spaces

