

Aspect 1:

1.1 Environmental Sounds

Within Aspect 1, children are provided with opportunities to explore indoor and outdoor environmental sounds.

The early stages of Aspect 1 encourage children to notice sounds around them, thinking about how different objects make different sounds. Children will then start to differentiate between these sounds in order to identify and name individual sounds within the environment. In the later stages of Aspect 1, children are encouraged to talk about, describe and compare the sounds they hear.

Children will learn:

- ✓ Develop listening skills and awareness of sounds in the environment
- ✓ Identify and remember the difference between sounds
- ✓ Talk about sounds in greater detail

1.2 Instrumental Sounds

Children will be introduced to and explore musical instrumental sounds.

In the earlier weeks of Level 1, children explore the sounds that instruments make and develop an awareness that they have to act upon an instrument to make a sound. Children will then start to identify the sounds of familiar instruments and name them. They will also develop an awareness of how they can affect the sound that a musical instrument makes by the way they act upon it. Within the later stages of Aspect 2, children are encouraged to talk about, describe and compare instrumental sounds as well as developing the skills to follow instructions to recreate a sound using an instrument.

Children will learn:

- ✓ Develop awareness of sounds made with instruments
- ✓ Listen to and appreciate the difference between sounds made with instruments
- ✓ Use a wide vocabulary to talk about instrument sounds

1.3 Recognise speech sounds from other sounds

Children will develop the ability to identify speech from environmental sounds that raises awareness that speech has a communicative purpose.

The ability to attend to and distinguish between both environmental and speech sounds from one another is important as it provides the basis for the development of spoken language and early literacy. Learning to distinguish one environmental sound from another helps to develop understanding of the crucial concepts 'same/different', as well as the ability to hear differences and label and identify them. The ability to identify speech from environmental sounds raises awareness that speech has a communicative purpose. This section provides activities and resources to support the development of these skills. It may be appropriate to consider the hearing acuity of school age children who appear to have difficulties at this level.

Children will learn:

- ✓ An awareness that speech sounds are distinct from other environmental sounds
- ✓ Listen to and identify spoken language
- ✓ Use a wider range of spoken words