



Northern Ireland Forest School Association

NIFSA Lesson Plan Template

| Planning | |
|---|--|
| Location | Horizon Surestart Garden |
| Date | 22/01/2026 |
| Class | Whole class (whoever decides to come) |
| Classroom Management | Whole class (whoever wants to join in) |
| Connected Learning/Prior Knowledge | A child asked if we could make a mud slide, suggested using shovels and water. |
| Health and Safety | Risk assessment complete, make sure ratio is correct, |
| Learning Intention | Discovering cause and affect, using different resources to create something new, problem solving and working together. |
| Success Criteria | The children have fun |
| Resources | Water, shovels and hill |
| Differentiation/Target Groups | Some children may need extra support some will be independent |
| Other | |

| Lesson Content | |
|-----------------------|--|
| On Arrival | Whistle will be blown, boundary will be set, children will be told what activity we are doing and shown resources. |
| Activity explained | We are creating our own mud slide, digging up grassy hill, adding water to create right consistency for sliding |

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| Finishing | The children can go back to free play |
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| Evaluation/Review | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| How did the group session go? | <p>Making a mudslide Child asked if we could make a mudslide, children worked together to dig grass up, added water and stomped in the mud to make the consistency for sliding. Learning opportunity:- Physical:- full body muscular development, children have to navigate slipping down the mud and climbing up and getting up if they fall. Communication and language:- discussing consistency, children telling each other how to move up and down. Personal Social and emotional :- provides opportunity for peers to help each other and make needs known. Exploring and thinking :- full sensory exploration, learning about cause and effect, using the water and our bodies as tools to change the texture and consistency of the grass to mud and adding more water until it was at the right amount of slidyness.</p> |
| Focus on individual pupils | One child directed their peers on what to do, pointing to the water and showing them where to put it and showing them where to dig then testing it out. |
| What would you change for next time? | I would use tarp next time |