



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 effect, 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

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</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Learning opportunity:-</p> <p>Physical:- full body muscular development, children have to navigate slipping down the mud and climbing up and getting up if they fall.</p> <p>Communication and language:- discussing consistency, children telling each other how to move up and down.</p> <p>Personal Social and emotional :- provides opportunity for peers to help each other and make needs known.</p> <p>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