

# The Third Teacher

A PROGRESSION OF PLAY BEHAVIOURS AND SKILLS

**Year Group:** Nursery (2's)

**Curriculum:** Seeds

**Area:** Sand



**Bankside  
Primary School**

*Putting down strong roots for success*

## Sand Area Seeds Stage 1-2

| Date/Notes | Sand Construction<br>(Fine Motor)            | Social Development                               | Mathematical Skills                                        | Imaginative Skills                                 | Continuous Provision                                                                                                                                     |
|------------|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|            | Pushes hands into sand, pats it              | Observes others, shows interest in people nearby | Touches and feels different textures of sand (wet and dry) | Explores sand as sensory experience                | Shallow trays, dry/wet sand, Glittered sand<br>Mini watering cans<br>Large basters<br>Variety of scoops<br>Pots<br>Stacking cups<br>mini pans<br>spoons. |
|            | Moves objects through sand with support      | Begins smiling and gesturing at peers            | Begins to explore cause and effect through dropping sand   | Repeats actions such as splashing or clapping sand |                                                                                                                                                          |
|            | Scoops sand independently with a small scoop | Watches and imitates familiar adults/peers       | Fills/empties small containers with support                | Pretends to 'cook' with sand                       |                                                                                                                                                          |

## Sand Area Seeds Stage 3-4

| Date/Notes | Sand Construction<br>(Fine Motor)                      | Social Development                 | Mathematical Skills                                             | Imaginative Skills                                         | Continuous Provision                                                                                                   |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|            | Pushes and pats to make mounds                         | Starts basic turn-taking with help | Adds more to a quantity through scooping                        | Hides objects and finds them                               | Scoops<br>mini pots,<br>stacking cups<br>plates<br>animals and people<br>bowls<br>large containers<br>small containers |
|            | Builds small mounds or holes                           | Engages in side-by-side play       | Chooses a big container to fill when experimenting with filling | Feeds toys with sand or buries them                        |                                                                                                                        |
|            | Digs with tools and forms small piles through scooping | Begins short cooperative play      | Explores filling and pours from one container to another        | Adds sand to a plate and gives it to an adult with a spoon |                                                                                                                        |



## Sand Area Seeds Stage 5-6

| Date/Notes | Sand Construction<br>(Fine Motor)                           | Social Development                         | Mathematical Skills                              | Imaginative Skills                       | Continuous Provision                                                                                                                     |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|            | Fills a stacking cup with sand and empties it out on repeat | Responds to ready steady go                | Says all gone to indicate empty                  | Makes animals walk through sand          | Variety of different sized tools and containers.<br>Beakers and small cylinders.<br>Stacking cups<br>Small buckets<br>Animals<br>Diggers |
|            | Turns a cup of sand over and taps it and looks under it     | Follows an adult tapping the sand cup      | Knows when a sand cup is full                    | Uses diggers to make noises in sand play |                                                                                                                                          |
|            | Makes a sand mound with a mould.<br>Enjoys squashing it     | Tries again if the sand mound doesn't work | Knows that toys are still there even when buried | Buries toys in the sand with intention   |                                                                                                                                          |

