Creating Communication Friendly Spaces

We have recently been involved in a project focusing on creating spaces to promote and develop speaking and listening skills with children. We have been building lots of dens both inside and outside the classroom, and observing how the children interact and communicate with each other when they are using these dens.

We have been lucky enough to receive some "Bags for Families" which contain different materials and open ended objects that can be used for den building and role play at home.

There is no right or wrong way of using the materials provided, they are for you to explore as a family in your own way. All that we ask is that the resources are looked after carefully and returned after one week so as they can be shared with as many families as possible. We would also be very interested if you could share with us the experiences you have had. This can be in the form of photographs, a quick chat with one of us and/or a written description of how your child used them, what they created and what they were saying during their play.

Of course we would also be interested in any other den building experiences you have as a family, so do let us know how you get on!

If you are interested in borrowing some of these bags then please let us know. We only have 3 bags which we will lend out on a rota basis for a week at a time. We look forward to hearing about your adventures!

"Small spaces offer valuable opportunities for ownership and privacy"

"Spaces reflecting a child's interests support high levels of concentration and involvement"

"Small spaces away from noise and movement allow children to investigate, explore and reflect"

"Where do you prefer to go when you want to think about something or chat with someone?"

"Strengthening children's early language development is important in improving quality and outcomes for young children"

"Creating spaces where children feel secure, allows them to freely express creative ideas and develop their play as they listen and interact with others"