

OUR SUNDIAL



Topic: How to create a sundial



Key terms: creativity, sundial, clock, time, daily routine

What we need: tablet, smartphone or computer, nature and non-nature objects from the school ground - branches, sticks, leaves, lids from bottles, sand, stones, twine, duct tape, paper, cardboard, scissors, colours for decorating sundial etc.

Estimated time: minimum 30 minutes
Methods: experiential learning

Activity description:

Possible objectives: To understand the perception of time.
To discuss and set a daily routine in cooperation with the children.

Activity:

Aim of the activity:

To create a sundial and determine the current time on it.

Background context:

While change can be considered as a learning opportunity, it can also be stressful for children. A normal routine brings comfort and consistency to a child's life.

Introduction to the activity:

Ask the children if they know what a sundial is? Have they ever seen this type of clock before? Today we will learn how to create a sundial clock which will allow us to tell the time when we are outside.

During the activity:

The activity is led by the children as much as possible. The teacher does not need to prepare anything; their task is to make the process inclusive and creative.

Open the following page on the tablet, smartphone or computer:

<https://www.sundialzone.com/en/sundial.php>

The children can choose whether they would like to create a wall or window sundial. The teacher asks the children if they can recall the schools address (street, city, town). The teacher then adds the address to the form and the application produces an aerial view of the school. Continue by labelling the sides of the building (using labels A, B, C, D) on which our sundial will be placed. Finally, we need to decide whether we wish to create a sundial with solar time or civil time and the application then creates a pdf file of our sundial. You can then use the pdf sketch as a model for creating your own sundial, drawing it onto card, cardboard etc... The children can then choose how they would like to decorate their sundials. You can also insert pictures in between the time intervals, showing what the children usually do in the particular time periods. Encourage the children to come up with their own imaginative ideas for decoration.

Possible evaluation questions for children:

Are there identical sticks, leaves, stones in nature? If you are not sure, let's try to find two sticks, leaves or stones that are exactly the same. Did you have any luck?

Curriculum links:

Man and society

Time

Sources: © This activity sheet was created by The Take Me Out Partnership

<https://www.sundialzone.com/en/sundial.php> - procedure for the construction of sundial

Notes:

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