

Shopping

Raise the children's awareness of different shops in their locality by drawing their attention to the wide variety that are depicted on our poster

Using the poster

Create an interactive 'street' display. Place the poster in the centre of a wallboard surrounded by the children's artwork and photographs of shops in your locality. Set up two tables next to each other underneath the display and make a row of shops along it using shoeboxes and other recycled materials. Create shop windows and doors from squares and rectangles of white paper, and invite the children to cut out pictures of items that may be sold in the various shops, using the poster for reference, from magazines and mail order catalogues. Label each shop and stick the pictures on to the appropriate windows. Introduce small-world characters to visit the shops and encourage the children to play freely with the finished display.



Activities across the curriculum

Personal, social and emotional development

- Talk about the poster together and invite the children to take turns to name an item along the centre. Which shop might sell this item? Can they find the matching item in the shop on the poster?
- Draw the children's attention to the fruit and vegetable shop. Can they name the different items on sale? What is the lady buying? With parental permission, take a small group of children to buy a few different fruits or vegetables. Check for any food allergies and dietary requirements, then have a tasting session and discuss likes and dislikes.

Communication, language and literacy

- Look at the image of the bookshop and discuss what the people are doing. Point out the storybook covers that depict different characters, such as Bingo the dog, Meg and King Jim. Which storybook characters do the children like? Explore some covers in your book collection and encourage the children to say what each book is about.
- Look for shop signs on the poster and invite the children to try to read them. Talk about why signs are useful, for example, to direct us to the children's department of the bookshop or advise

us of special offers. With parental permission, take the children, together with a camera, on a sign hunt around your local shops.

Mathematical development

- Invite the children to search for numerals on price labels and signs on the poster. Arrange plastic numerals from 1 to 10 in a row and encourage the children to try to find examples of some of them.
- Ask questions involving counting objects on the poster, for example, 'How many dolls can you count on the shelf?', 'How many dinosaurs are on the shelf above them?' or 'Are there more dolls or more dinosaurs?'

Knowledge and understanding of the world

- Use the poster to discuss the children's own experiences of shopping. Can they think of any shops that are not represented? Ask questions to develop their knowledge about differences in shops, for example, 'Where could you buy some new socks?' or 'Where would you take a prescription for some medicine?'
- Look at the image of the shop selling electrical goods. Can the children name the appliances? How do they work? What are they used for? Emphasise the dangers of electricity and simple safety rules.

Physical development

- Look at the image of the sports shop. What are the items on sale used for? Invite parents to bring in examples of sports equipment and encourage the children to handle them under adult supervision. Emphasise the importance of regular exercise for a healthy body and play simple team games with soft balls.
- Talk about the image of the pet shop, then set up a role-play pet shop using large boxes and recycled materials for cages and pens.

Creative development

- Use the poster as inspiration for a series of role-play shops. Let the children choose a shop to set up, then modify the resources used to create a different one when the children are ready. Consult the children throughout the process and ensure that choices are primarily theirs.
- Look at the characters in the poster and encourage the children to make up imaginary scenarios related to them, for example, 'Who is the lady in the clothes shop buying a T-shirt for?' or 'What is the mum with the baby talking to the chemist about?'. Invite the children to act out their scenarios.

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