

Teacher Education Design Principle + code:	17. Teacher education should address with teachers issues in ensuring rich provision, planning and use of resources (including digital resources) in and out of the classroom to support children's inquiry and creativity. TE: Resources
Specific Teacher Outcome(s):	17.6 Teachers should be able to gain insights into children's developing explorations and creativity based on their use of resources. 17.7 Teachers should be able to develop the school grounds and the outdoor classroom for use in science and mathematics education.
Factors linked with:	A:Evid; P:Express; M:Outdoor
Type of material (image – interview (int) – classroom extract (class):	Image
Originating from:	
Country report:	D4.3 UK (Northern Ireland)
Case:	Case 17
Episode:	Outdoor Measuring
Teacher:	Andrea
Age Group:	6-7
Selected episode present in D4.4 Appendix	No

Using outdoor space for developing mathematics skills

As part of this session, children were experimenting with various forms of measuring tools, including metre-rulers and 'trundle wheels'. Their use was demonstrated by the teaching assistant before the children then used the equipment to measure things around the school ground, such as benches and the length of the school shed.



Ronan and Diedre (teaching assistant) measuring a bench

Children's creative use of mathematical classroom equipment



Ronan measuring a pole

In this case, Ronan then used the trundle wheel in innovative ways to measure different things not specified by the teaching assistant; the height of a post, the width of a door, the length of a windowsill.

Ronan then was extending the activity past the initial task set by the teaching assistant. This provided an excellent opportunity for the practitioners to gain insights into Ronan's explorations.

Afterwards Ronan announced that he wanted to measure the perimeter of the playground. The other children either went back inside or found other things to measure, such as the width of the door using the metre ruler.



Ronan measuring the perimeter of the playground using a trundle-wheel



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