Lesson plan – Jack and the beanstalk messy play

Learning Target – Children will explore textures and materials while retelling elements of Jack and the beanstalk though sensory and imaginative messy play.

Prior Learning: Read through the story of Jack and the bean stalk using props and real objects to embed learning.

Key questions: Do you like how it feels?

Core words used: More, help, good, big, small.

Materials needed:
Tray 1 – Edible mud (flour, oil and milkshake powder) beans, spoons and cups.
Tray 2 – Broad beans, green beans, butter beans, scissors and plates.
Tray 3 – Chocolate angel delight and insects.
Tray 4 – Edible mud (flour, oil and milkshake powder) fake flowers, scoops and pots.

Adaptations for learning:

- Use visual prompts from the story to help children recall.
- Provide simple instructions one step at a time.
- Offer larger tools for easier gripping and fine motor support.
- Reduce sensory overload by using fewer textures and offering gloves.
- Model language from the story
- Support core words by using Makaton signs.

Outcomes:

Tray 1 – Planting beans

Tray 3 – What insects are in the mud?

Tray 2 – Exploring beans.

grow?

Tray 4 – How do your flowers