WHAT'S IN WASHING PRODUCTS?

SUMMARY

Children explore a range of real washing products and examine the packaging to see how they contain different mixtures, created to do the same job. Using the Post-it Planning Template or Interactive Planning Tool groups of children will work together to develop their understanding of fair testing and controlling variables. They will also use this method to choose an aspect of the effectiveness of washing products, devise their own enquiry question and investigate the outcome.

OBJECTIVES

- To investigate and compare different washing products (commercial mixtures)
- To recognise when and how to set up comparative and fair tests, and explain which variables need to be controlled and why



SCIENCE VOCABULARY

Mixture	Investigate	Compare
Variable	Change	Observe
Measure	Control	Fair Test

RESOURCES (IN BRIEF)

- 4-6 different washing products
- Hot and cold water
- Samples of stained fabric (eg margarine stain)
- Thermometers
- Timers
- Jugs and containers
- Post-it notes
- Planning sheet

PRIOR KNOWLEDGE/EXPERIENCE

Children should have opportunities to set up simple practical enquiries, comparative and fair tests. They should be able to recognise when a fair test is necessary and help to make some of the planning required for this.