

## Using Reels in EYFS

As part of a recent EYFS Network Meeting Kim, from Eyke Church of England Primary School, shared some small world play resources that she had made from a recycled Cable Reel:



One of the reels had been made into a small world fairy garden:



...complete with door to another world...





Kim had also used another reel to make a farm scene with a green and ploughed field which the children loved to use with farm animals and tractors

As a result, the next meeting involved a large delivery of reels which were given to each EYFS teacher with a challenge – **How can you use your reel to support learning?**



Melissa, from Chelmondiston Church of England Primary School, used the reel to support her 'Space' topic. Further plans include working with the children to add stars and constellations.



Josie, from Bramfield Church of England Primary School, used her reel as the base for a magical message tree. It started out as a couple of branches and basket of ribbons but was transformed. The children have written letters to all sorts of creatures that they would like to visit the tree and have been returning to the weaving and adding more each day. They are now just waiting for some replies!



Vicki, from Long Melford Church of England Primary School, developed her reel with a Transport theme in mind; complete with road, slope to open air car parking and helicopter pad on the roof!

She also transformed another reel into a reading seat for the classroom





Jan, from St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Hadleigh, used her more flexibly with it being transformed to support a range of topics. Here it is being used to support work on Goldilocks and the Three Bears

Emma, from Tudor Church of England Primary School, also involved the children in changing the use of the reel to match different topics. Here it is being used for small world play...





... the children also used it to make a giant ice flow for their work on Penguins

At the next EYFS Network Meeting Emma also shared the use of recycled farm machinery tyres to create and support provision in the EYFS Outside Area. The children had recently developed this area as a Dinosaur Park. Another challenge was created!



Heather Hann – Head of School Improvement March 2018