**Make your own iSpy Book (Collette and Chloe)**

**Focus:**

* For children to make digital iSpy books
* Children will practise the skills of finding images, making a web album, identifying and naming objects

**What you need:**

* Picasa online (<http://picasa.google.co.uk/>)
* A range of images for children to choose from, open in a Word Document (taken from sources such as Wikimedia Commons (<http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Main_Page>)
* Microsoft Word
* Paper
* Pencils/Pens

or…

* iPads, Flipcameras, Digital Cameras
* A selection of natural found objects, e.g. pinecones, acorns etc.

**What you do:**

Either…

* With support, help the children to copy and paste images from the selection, onto a Word Document
* Help the children to add a title, e.g. ‘My iSpy Book’
* Help the children to add labels, e.g. pinecone, acorn, leaf
* Print the document
* Go outdoors with the children, searching for the different objects

Or…

* Bring in a selection of natural objects
* Support the children in photographing the objects, inserting them into a Word Document
* Help the children to format the document, e.g. adding a title and labels
* Print the document
* Go outdoors with the children, searching for the different objects

**Note:** we have given two different options for doing this activity. The first may be more suited to older children, however, would be achievable in the Early Years, with adult support

**Learning Benefits:**

* Children will be learning how to gather images, copy and then paste them into a word document
* Children will learn how to navigate the different menu options in Microsoft Word, e.g. moving images, adjusting image size etc.
* Children could learn how to take photographs on the iPad, cameras etc.(in turn, children will develop fine motor skills, such as the pressing of buttons, moving of fingers across a screen etc.)
* Children will develop knowledge of Living Things, including natural objects
* Children will enjoy learning in the outdoor environment, experiencing their learning first-hand

**Taking it Further:**

* Children to use iPads on their outdoor visits, recording their journey searching for the objects. Children to record each other’s thoughts and ideas, questioning each other, e.g. What have you found? Can you tell me about this…? Children to share videos with group, leading to discussion
* Children to collect photographs and use them to create group Stop Frame Animations of their learning process – children to use an animation/presentation tool, such as Smoovie (<http://www.smoovie.com/>) or iMovie (<https://itunes.apple.com/gb/app/imovie/id377298193>)

**Example:**

