# **Core Skills Analysis**

## **Physical Education**

- Enhanced gross motor skills through digging, involving arm and leg muscles for vigorous physical activity.
- Improved coordination and balance while manipulating objects in the dirt patch.
- Developed spatial awareness by digging and exploring the environment.

#### Science

- Learned about geological concepts such as rocks, minerals, and the idea of 'treasure' as a fun discovery.
- Explored the concept of excavation and the process of digging to uncover hidden objects.
- Experience in observation and inquiry skills while discovering the rock and discussing its properties.

### **Social Emotional**

- Promoted teamwork and collaboration by digging and sharing the treasure finding experience with friends.
- Enhanced communication skills through discussing and describing the found rock with peers.
- Boosted self-esteem and confidence by successfully uncovering a 'treasure' in the dirt patch.

### Tips

Encourage imaginative play by creating scenarios where the children can continue to explore and dig for more 'treasures'. Offer opportunities for group discussions to share their findings and experiences, fostering language development. Incorporate elements of sensory play by introducing textures like sand, gravel, or clay for a multi-sensory exploration.

### **Book Recommendations**

- <u>Dirt: The Scoop on Soil</u> by Natalie M. Rosinsky: This book introduces young readers to the world beneath their feet, explaining the importance of soil and how it affects plants and animals.
- <u>I Love Dirt!: 52 Activities to Help You and Your Kids Discover the Wonders of Nature</u> by Jennifer Ward: A hands-on guide promoting outdoor play and exploration, including activities related to digging and nature discovery.
- <u>Rocks in His Head</u> by Carol Otis Hurst: A heartwarming story about a boy fascinated with rocks, inspiring a sense of wonder and curiosity about the natural world.