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| Theme | **Mighty Materials (Junior Classes)** |
| Curriculum | **Strand:** Materials  **Strand Unit:** Properties and Characteristics of Materials  **Curriculum Objectives:**  Investigate materials for different properties, e.g. materials that absorb water and those that are waterproof.  **Skills Development:** Carry out simple investigations set by the teacher, carry out observations and collect data. |

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| Engage | | |
| The Trigger | Wondering | Exploring |
| Oops, I knocked over my glass of water and some of it spilled on the table. | I wonder what we could use to clean up the spill?  Brainstorm ideas.  Discuss what we use in everyday life. | Explore/manipulate the materials provided (or choose your own selection):   * Plastic bag * Newspaper * Kitchen Roll * Magazine   Discuss what each material is like (properties)?   * Similarities/differences? * Do you know what it is – have you seen it or used it before? |

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| Investigate | | | |
| Starter Question | Predicting | Conducting the Investigation | Sharing: Interpreting the data / results |
| Which of these materials would work best to clean up (soak up) the water?  But what do we mean by ‘best’:   * + Most absorbent?   + Strongest?   + Softest? | Predict which material will clean up the water based on previous knowledge and having explored the materials provided. | Select the material you predicted to be ‘the best’.   * Does it soak up any water? * Does it soak up ALL the water? * Does it soak up the water quickly? * Now try the other materials. * Are they as good or as bad as you thought? * Record your findings (e.g. smiley / sad faces)   Keep FAIR TESTING in mind. | Discuss and show results.  Compile class results and represent them visually e.g. on a pictogram. |

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| Take The Next Step | | |
| Applying Learning | Making Connections | Thoughtful Actions |
| * Apply what you have learned to a follow up investigation to determine which brand of kitchen roll or toilet paper that absorbed the ‘best’. * When would it be important in everyday life to know which materials are good absorbers? * Can you think of any examples outside the home where absorbent material is important? * What would the other materials you explored be good for? * Design and Make a waterproof coat for Teddy. * Make a list of all the new words we learned today. | | |

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| Reflection | * Did I meet my learning objectives? * Are the children moving on with their science skills? * Can the children use the words absorbent and waterproof correctly? * Are there cross curriculum opportunities here? * What went well, what would I change? |