



E13



10-15 minutes



- ❖ Images of a child with dirty clothes and with clean clothes



- ❖ Some dolls' clothes or a few small items of clothing - to be Grumpy's clothes
- ❖ A plastic bowl with water and a small amount of washing liquid in for handwashing the clothes
- ❖ An iron and ironing board

# WASHING AND IRONING



- To reinforce that water evaporates when heated
- To know that we can use a hot iron to dry wet clothes
- To know that the hot iron makes water from the wet clothes evaporate



## SAFETY NOTE

- The activities described in this session are designed to provide a memorable learning experience, and have all been carried out successfully with young children. However, you will need to minimise risks and comply with your own health and safety policies.
- ❖ Ensure that your child does not come into contact with the iron, and that they understand that a hot iron can cause injury.



Show your child the pictures provided, and ask them about ways that clothing gets dirty (mud, food stains and so on) and why we clean it (so that it looks neat and smells fresh). Then discuss ways of cleaning clothes (most items can be washed in water either by hand or in a machine; some are more delicate and need to be 'dry cleaned').

Wash your dolls' clothes in a bowl in front of your child and explain that this is how Grumpy, one of the dwarfs from Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, washes his dirty clothing. Squeeze the excess water out and encourage your child to feel the wet clothes. Agree that they cannot be worn straight away because they are wet. Using questions to guide and prompt them, establish that the clothing is wet because of the water and if we want the items to be dry so we can wear them we need the water to evaporate.

Ask your child for ways that they can think of to dry clothing - leave them to air dry inside the house or outside in the sun on a washing line or rotary dryer, or put them in a tumble dryer. Talk about the advantages and disadvantages of each method - explain about the time taken, the time, the cost/use of electricity, the weather and the convenience factor.

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- Your child knows that water evaporates when heated.
- Your child knows that we can use a hot iron to dry wet clothing.
- Your child knows that the hot iron turns the water to steam - that the water evaporates.





## WASHING AND IRONING – continued



Then say: *Grumpy is so impatient, he can't wait for his clothes to dry naturally. Even the heat from the sun doesn't evaporate the water quickly enough for him. Can you think of any other way he can dry his clothes quickly, to make the water evaporate faster? He doesn't have a tumble dryer!*

Listen to your child's suggestions, and agree that Grumpy can use a hot iron to turn the water in the wet clothes into steam – the water will evaporate, leaving dry clothing.

Demonstrate using a hot iron to dry the dolls' clothing. Draw attention to the steam coming from the clothing as you iron, and have your child feel the warm and dry clothing once it has been ironed.

Comment how quick and easy that was, and how hopefully even Grumpy would be happy with that!



To further consolidate the learning from this session, you could ask your child to help with washing and ironing one or more of their items of clothing. 😊

Cut out each child separately.

