

Medium Term Planning. Forest School – Autumn 1.2 – NOV/ DEC 2023

Exploring the outdoors.

Forest Schools is a child-centred approach; the activities that I plan to offer should reflect the needs and development of the particular children I am working with. The activities are only a starting point and children may choose to take activities in a different direction from the one intended (or choose not to participate in the activity at all). It is the leader’s role to be prepared for this and adaptable enough to develop children’s learning in the most appropriate way. Effective observation and evaluation therefore are vital to plan for future sessions and decide which activities to offer.

	Theme		Learning outcomes	Teacher	Resources
Wk 1	Bonfire / GUY Fawkes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show resilience and perseverance in the face of a challenge • Build constructive and respectful relationships • Work collaboratively in a group • Plan and think ahead – how to explore or play with objects • Improve gross and fine motor skills • Talk about celebrations and how / why we celebrate. 	<p>Recap how to walk around the Firepit safely.</p> <p>Read REMEMBER , remember poem - around the firepit.</p> <p>Talk about why we celebrate Guy Fawkes or Bonfire Night</p> <p>Activities –</p> <p>Making mini Guys – use palm drill and conkers/ sticks.</p> <p>Lighting fire together.</p> <p>Apples dipped in sugar and cinnamon on the fire.</p> <p>Apple grating in the mud kitchen.</p>	<p>Apples</p> <p>Grator</p> <p>Conkers</p> <p>Sticks</p> <p>First aid kit</p> <p>Burns kit</p> <p>Apples</p> <p>Cinnamon and sugar</p> <p>Toasting sticks</p> <p>Wipes</p>
Wk2	Remembrance		<p>Understand the effect of changing seasons on the natural world around them</p> <p>Describe what they see, hear, and feel whilst outside</p>	<p>Read Ava’s Poppy with the children. Talk about Remembrance.</p> <p>Activities -</p> <p>Poppy seed bombs with clay and seeds.</p>	<p>Ava’s poppy</p> <p>Clay and poppy seeds , mini boxes</p>

			<p>Explore different materials freely and develop ideas on what to make</p> <p>Explore colours and sort materials</p> <p>Begin to talk about the different shapes and sizes of leaves</p> <p>Begin to identify some leaves</p>	<p>Leaf poppies – red leaf hunt. Giant or individual.</p> <p>Making shelters for the soldiers – den building.</p>	
3	Into the Forest		<p>Begin to talk about the different shapes and sizes of leaves</p> <p>Begin to identify some leaves.</p> <p>Use natural materials to create their own art.</p> <p>Use their imagination to tell stories of their own.</p>	<p>Read Into the Forest with the children – predict what might happen. Talk about similar stories.</p> <p>Show the children the maple leaf wolf and explain that we will be making our own.</p> <p>Activities –</p> <p>Maple leaf wolves</p> <p>Clay wolf faces on trees</p> <p>Red cloak, basket, puppets – make a stage for story telling.</p> <p>Maps of where the characters go in the story.</p>	<p>Into the Forest</p> <p>Maple leaves (LW)</p> <p>Sticker eyes/ pens</p> <p>Clay</p> <p>Red cloak, basket, puppets.</p>
4	A Bit Lost	Owls	<p>I can describe sounds that we might hear</p> <p>I can talk about some creatures that might live in the woods</p> <p>I can use natural materials to create</p>	<p>Read A Bit Lost around the firepit. Explain the baby owl has fallen out of her nest and we need to make a new one.</p> <p>Activities – Owl hunt</p> <p>Making nests for cuddly owl</p> <p>Owl / bird identification books and binoculars in the round house</p> <p>Owl discs</p> <p>Making food for the owls - bird cake</p>	<p>Safety talk</p> <p>Meeting circle</p> <p>A Bit Lost story</p> <p>Toy owls</p> <p>Owl/ bird books books</p> <p>Wooden discs</p> <p>Sunflower seeds / apples/ pinecones / lard</p>

5	Stick Man	Festive	<p>To explore the natural environment using their senses</p> <p>Show resilience and perseverance in the face of a challenge</p> <p>Review progress as they try to achieve a goal</p> <p>Feel more confident about coming up with own ideas</p> <p>Respond to new experiences</p> <p>Recognise that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways</p>	<p>Read the story of the Stickman around the campfire.</p> <p>Make our own stickmen – lashing/ frapping with string then clay heads.</p> <p>Make a home for the stickman.</p> <p>Stick man photo hunt...stick man oh stick man beware of the ...</p> <p>Enjoy hot chocolate around the fire</p>	
6	Elves and fairies		<p>To explore the natural environment using their senses</p> <p>Show resilience and perseverance in the face of a challenge</p> <p>Review progress as they try to achieve a goal</p> <p>Feel more confident about coming up with own ideas</p> <p>Respond to new experiences</p> <p>Recognise that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways</p>	<p>Read an elf/ fairy story around the fire pit.</p> <p>Explain that we are going to make our own elves/ fairies by carving a stick.</p> <p>Show examples</p> <p>Activities –</p> <p>Carving elves – tool talk with peelers</p> <p>Making elf and fairy homes.</p>	

<p>Underpinning the whole of forest school is physical development which can be measured week1 and week 6 experiences include:</p> <p>Experimenting with different ways of moving. Jumping off objects and landing appropriately. Negotiating successfully, adjusting speed or changing direction to avoid obstacles. Traveling with confidence and skill around, under, over and through balancing and climbing. Show increasing control over an object in pushing, patting, throwing, catching or kicking.</p>					