

FOREST SCHOOL – CURRICULUM PROGRESSION BY YEAR GROUP

Forest Schools ethos is a child-initiated and child lead approach; the skills reflect the needs and development of the particular children we are working with.

However, certain skills will be introduced within different years to widen the depth. Skills will be introduced for the children to investigate further.

	FS1	FS2	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Boundaries Rules Safety Procedures	I listen to boundaries, safety and general rules and try to carry them out	I can point the boundaries and remain within them. I can say some of the rules and safety procedures (e.g. snakes, moving/lifting objects)	I can say where the boundaries are and remain within them. I can retell and carry out the rules and safety procedures (e.g. snakes, moving/lifting objects)	I can say where the forest and extended boundaries are and explain why I should remain within them. I explain and adhere to the rules and safety rules.	I can identify where the forest boundaries are and say why. I can remain within the boundaries and extended boundaries. I can retell and adhere to safety procedures	I can explain the boundaries to new children. I can remain within the boundaries and extended boundaries. I can tell new children and remind others of safety rules and procedures if needed.	I can be involved in deciding the forest boundaries and extended boundaries and remain within them. I can remind and support others and new pupils with the safety rules and procedures.	I can take a leadership role in deciding the forest boundaries and extended boundaries and remain within them without boundary markings. I can adhere to rules and safety procedure without reminders and support my peers (including new pupils)
Tools	I can experiment safely with basic real tools – Digging equipment eg. Towels, forks, spades etc. Tools - hammers, mallets I can store my tools safely I can use tools within the safety of a 'blood bubble'	I can use basic tools safely Digging equipment eg. Towels, forks, spades etc. Tools - hammers, mallets I can tell others how you store tools safely I can mark my own 'blood bubble' with my foot or stick and work within it	I can confidently use basic tools appropriately. I can use different sized hammers to 'whop/eco print' I can name and can use a locking knife to cut thin string. I can use the peeler to strip wood I can use Secateurs	I can use basic tools for more complex tasks. I can use a locking knife to cut string to medium thickness	I can use a wider range of tools including knives for cutting string and rope different thickness I can use the hand drill for drilling holes through discs of wood or other thin pieces of wood. I can use the bow saw for cutting logs. I can use loopers for looping larger branches and bamboo.	I can use a wide range of tools safely and explain the appropriate tool for the task Including a pruning saw (also known as folding saw)	I can explain and use the appropriate tools to use for a task, clean tools and store safely I know which gloves are ideal for: clearing undergrowth moving various woodland resources such as rocks, sticks, logs etc. working with fire and when using tools (e.g. rigger fire gauntlets or welder's gauntlets)	I can mentor and explain how to use tools safely, maintain and store all tools. I can use a Billhook to split green logs; shed or strip branches; hedge lay; coppice and clear.
Knots Knots are taught on a need to know basis. Therefore if a knot Clove Hitch is need in Year	I can experiment with tying knot (on a piece of string ... free right or left under etc.)	I can experiment with tying a granny knot (used as a knot that can come undone easily e.g. often used for shoe laces) I can join two small branches together by simple lashing.	I experiment with tying a square knot (simple joining knot) I can lash to join more than two small together	I can tie a sheet bend knot (good for joining different size of ropes) I can lash to join three or more twigs or branches together	I can tie a slip knot (a quick release knot) and understand it should be used safely as it is a type of noose. I can lash and teach someone else how to lash.	I can use a Taut-line Hitch knot (perfect for tying down a tent guy line)	I can use a Clove Hitch knot (for tying a rope to a tree or pole)	I can peer mentor and explain how to tie different knots and know which knot is used for different tasks.
Den/ structures	I can build a simple Debris Shelter	I can build a Tee-pee Shelter	I can build a Lean to Shelter e.g.	I can build an Organic shelter e.g.	I can build a Ridge shelter (one sided)	I can build an A Frame (two sided)	I can build a shelter fit for purpose shelter	I can build a shelter with levers and pulleys. flaps that open for windows etc.

	<p>experimenting with natural forest materials</p>	<p>I can experiment with natural and man-made materials (e.g. tarpuline and hessian)</p>	<p>Lay a large branch against a standing tree or a Y shaped stick to form a ridge pole. Collected large sticks and lay them against it to form a lattice - this makes up the structure for the sides of the shelter. Cover the shelter with bracken, large leaves and grasses.</p> <p>I can begin to weave into the structure of the shelter to reduce wind and make waterproof.</p>	<p>Look for a tree with a good strong high branch. Tie a branch or large stone to the end of a piece of rope and throw it over a strong branch. Take the centre of the tarp and put a stone inside the tarp (in its centre.) Wrap the other end of the string around the stone and tie. Pull the stone end and the tarp will rise up to the branch Take each cover of the tarp and tie it to bushes/branches/trunk.</p>	<p>Find a clear space, in between two strong trees. Tie rope from one tree to the other creating a straight line (rope) to throw a tarp over. Make sure a slip knot is used so that the rope does not harm the trunk of the tree. Pull the back of the tarp, using a piece of branch stake each corner. Tie a simple knot. You could lay a large branch along the back edge of the tarp to hold it down further and stop the wind getting in.</p>	<p>A two-sided, wedge-shaped hut Find two trees and tie rope across Place the branches/hessian/taupuline for the sides. You could lay a large branch along the back edge of the tarp to hold it down further and stop the wind getting in.</p>	<p>Select a shelter fit for weather conditions, test out the conditions</p>	<p>I can peer mentor another year how to make a den specific to their age group</p>
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