Forest School Progression of Skills – Hormead First School



Strand	Nursery	У	Reception		Year 1	Year 2		Year 3	Year 4	
Shelter building	with suppMini-den	with support Mini-den building for small animals. Create a lean to shelter, with limited			 Independent use of tripod structures (animal den building) Introduction to lashing techniques to make frames Create a lean to shelter, independently or with limited support 			 Design and build varying sized shelters using tarpaulin and materials found in a woodland. Work successfully as a group having considered and evaluated each other's contributions. Compare and evaluate the shelters in relation to their sturdiness, durability, weatherproofing and whether it is fit for purpose 		
Tool use		tent peg	ls: peelers for s, hammers, trowels	•	Continuation of the use of bow saw 1-1 to for whittling, tent pegand forks.	of string. cut discs and peelers	ar do	skills when using a ro Use of loppers, seco ote: Tools will only be u e physically, mentally	•	
Using fire for cooking	the fire anTalk about and fuel)Contributed	nd how to ut fire triar te to fire li	about the safety of be safe around it. agle (oxygen, heat ghting by gathering guish a fire.	•	Observe and talk abordire and how to be so Talk about fire triangle fuel). Be able to explain who why. Understand that we a simple food. Know how to extingu	Ife around it. e (oxygen, heat and and the fuel to gather and can use fire to cook	•	Observe and talk at and how to be safe Talk about fire triang fuel) Experience using fire flame, be able to se fire.	gle (oxygen, heat and e strikers to spark a elect materials to build o ton wool (fairy pillow)	
Knots	Introduct	ion to ba	sic knots	•	More sophisticated u attaching to structure Overhand knot and h Lashing and frapping frames	es and trees e.g. nalf hitch	•	More sophisticated structures and trees	knots for attaching to	

In addition to the above 4 main areas covered in Forest School sessions we seek to consolidate all areas of the curriculum and build and extend knowledge for example:

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ENGLISH - Children will use descriptive vocabulary to describe woodland objects and plants, though sensory games. All of these sessions use speaking and listening, key literacy skills such as exciting vocabulary which then permeates all areas of learning. They will talk and share ideas about how we can help to look after the planet. Children will use found objects, story stones and knowledge of woodland creatures to create stories.

SCIENCE - Through shelter building children recognise that there are hazards in living things, materials and physical processes and assess risks and take action to reduce these risks to themselves and others. They learn to sort objects into groups on the basis of simple material properties, they learn that both pushes and pulls are forces and how a variety of materials are chosen for specific uses on the basis of their simple properties. Through mini beast hunts children learn about the different kinds of animals in local environment and understand that animals need food and water to survive. By looking at flowers children recognize the leaf, flower, stem and root of flowering plants. When cooking children follow instructions to control the risks to themselves, they use the senses of site, hearing, smell, touch and taste as appropriate. They communicate what happens in a variety of ways including speech and explore and describe the way some materials change when they are heated.

MATHS – Children measure lengths of sticks and consolidate 3D shapes when building dens and making picture frames. Children create scores for each task in obstacle courses. Children use the directions NESW and directions in simple programming.

ART and DT – The Forest Schools curriculum gives all children the opportunities to cut and shape wood safely using a range of tools. They will learn how to use a hand drill, peeler and loppers. They will also learn how to lash pieces of wood together and how and why we tie different knots.

PSHE – Forest School will nurture a deeper bond with nature and consider how much joy it brings to the children, and how they should respect and look after our planet. They will learn how to listen to other people, and play and work collaboratively. Children will be introduced to mindfulness techniques enabling them to lose themselves in the sights and sounds of the woodland area.