



Skill
Progression
Document

Produced October 2018

Whalley C of E Primary School

Forest School

Skill Progression

Below is a guide of suggested skills which will be covered in each year group, activities may vary depending on the ability and competence of each cohort/class and individual child.

All activities listed below will be risk assessed and monitored by the Forest School leader (Adam Todd).

Reception/ Year 1	<u>Aims/ success criteria</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Become familiar with the FS site and its boundaries.• Understand the basic rules of FS.• Build simple dens and shelters.• Identify simple woodland materials.• Use natural materials in a creative way.• Undertake mini beast hunting activities.• Toasting marshmallows.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children know where they are/ are not allowed to go.• Children know how to keep themselves and others stay safe in FS.• Children can build simple lean-to dens and shelters using branches and tarpaulins.• Children can identify materials such as sticks, pine cones, leaves as well as potential hazards e.g nettles, brambles.• Children select appropriate materials to make individual sculptures and pictures.• Children know how and where to safely search for mini beasts.• Children learn how to safely move around the fire circle and toast marshmallows around the communal fire.

<p>Year 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know the rules and expectations of being at FS. • Tie a selection of simple knots. • Join materials together. • Build simple dens and shelters. • Begin to think about how we can support the woodland ecosystem. • Undertake low-level climbing/ balancing activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children have a good understanding of what the rules are in FS that keep themselves and others safe. • Children learn to tie a reef knot and an over-hand loop knot. • Children use learnt knots to tie materials together (dens/ art/ DT activities) • Children can build simple lean-to dens and shelters using branches and tarpaulins. • Children build items such as; improvised bird houses/ Mini Beast hotels. • If children express an interest, they can be taught how to select appropriate trees to climb and techniques to use. The slackline may also be used to develop balancing skills. • Children learn how to safely move around the fire circle and

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toasting marshmallows. 	<p>toast marshmallows around the communal fire.</p>
<p>Year 3/ 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a clear understanding of the rules and expectations at FS. • Use small hand tools. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children demonstrate that they know and understand how to behave appropriately at FS and where necessary advise/ support others. • Children learn how to set up a tool area and safely use; secateurs, carpenters brace, folding hand saw to cut different sized sticks, twigs and branches. • Children learn to pair- cut tree cookies with the support of an

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With support, use a bow saw. • Tie a wider range of knots. • Build improvised and identifiable dens and shelters. • Be aware and take part in simple woodland management techniques. • Begin to have an understanding about open-fire management and outdoor cooking. 	<p>adult.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children expand on the range of knots they can tie, by learning how to tie a sheer lash and timber hitch. • Children are given the opportunity to construct their own dens as well as being taught how to build shelters such as an 'A' frame/ lean-to shelter. • Children learn that sometimes we can support, sustain and enhance woodlands through intervention, through activities such as; coppicing, pollarding, re-planting, clearing, fence building, path-laying. • Children learn about what PPE is used to keep themselves and others safe when using the fire. • Children know how to select appropriate trees for climbing and understand the safety considerations for the activity. •
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake tree climbing. 	
<p>Year 5/ 6- Children should have learnt the majority of the skills outlined in the previous years, before progressing to the next set of skills.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a clear understanding of the rules and expectations at FS. • Learn to tie a wider range of knots and lashes. • Build a range of woodland furniture. • Use a bow saw. • Use a bush craft knife. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children demonstrate that they know and understand and can describe how to behave appropriately at FS and where necessary advise/ support others. • Children learn how to tie; A taught tarp hitch, square lash, adjustable slip knot. • Children learn to build items such as seating, racks, washing up stations, using different bush craft techniques. • Children learn how to use a bow saw both individually and in a pair with another child. • Children learn the safe practices when using a bush craft knife. And use it to whittle and split small pieces of wood. • Children learn how to site a suitable location and erect a tarpaulin shelter using recognised knots. • Children learn how to site a suitable location for a temporary fire, understand

- Erect tarpaulin shelters.

- Light and maintain a small temporary fire.

(PPE- Personal Protective Equipment)

what PPE is required, prepare the area, set up a fire area, gather and prepare appropriate material, use a fire striker to light their fire, use suitable grades of fuel, safely extinguish the fire and correctly dispose of fire remains.