

Forest School - Progression of Skills

Skill	Reception	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Shelter building	Introduction of basic shelter building with support (some indoor and outdoor equipment) Mini-den building for small animals	Supported construction of tripod structures (mini-den building) Erect a lean to shelter, with support	Independent use of tripod structures (animal den building) Introduction to lashing and frapping techniques to make frames Create a lean to shelter, independently or with limited support	Create a tarpaulin shelter in a woodland Work successfully as a group, having considered and evaluated each members' contributions Compare and evaluate the shelters in relation to their sturdiness, durability, weatherproofing and whether it is fit for purpose	Design and build varying sized shelters using tarpaulin and materials found in a woodland Work successfully as a group, having considered and evaluated each members' contributions Compare and evaluate the shelters in relation to their sturdiness, durability, weatherproofing and whether it is fit for purpose	Create a tipi shelter with camouflage Work successfully as a group, having considered and evaluated each members' contributions Compare and evaluate the shelters in relation to their sturdiness, durability, weatherproofing and whether it is fit for purpose	Shelter building challenge - working in teams the children plan, build and review their shelters (recap the different ways to build shelters) Work successfully as a group, having considered and evaluated each members' contributions Compare and evaluate the shelters in relation to their sturdiness, durability, weatherproofing and whether it is fit for purpose

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Geographical Skills and Navigation	Follow rules and boundaries Promote free exploration	Use simple compass directions (North, South, East and West) Use directional language (near and far; left and right) Describe the location of features and routes on a map Recognise landmarks and human and physical features Devise a simple map and use basic symbols in a key	Use simple compass directions (North, South, East and West) Use directional language (near and far; left and right) Describe the location of features and routes on a map Recognise landmarks and human and physical features Devise a simple map and use basic symbols in a key	Demonstrate understanding of the concept of a basic map Navigate your way around a simple orienteering course Understand the term 'orientate or 'setting' a map Complete a simple orienteering activity in pairs / groups Record information accurately and neatly Follow rules when completing a orienteering activity	Recognise features and symbols on the map Understand how to orientate the map Demonstrate understanding of a line orienteering course (short loop) and orienteering Build trust with a partner and work together when orienteering	Use the eight points of a compass and four figure grid references Develop expertise in the orienteering skills of orientating a map, following a course, and recognition of relevant map symbols Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between pacing and distance Plan a short loop course for another pair to follow Improve confidence in map reading and the transfer of information from map to ground Apply skills of orienteering including thumbing the map, route choice and symbol recognition Plan the most efficient route so that the course is completed in the quickest time	Compass, four and six-figure grid references, symbols and key (including the use of Ordnance Survey Maps) Further develop navigational skills by planning ahead, identifying problems and making decisions Learn to balance speed and accuracy Set, read and follow a bearing Practice and develop pacing skills Be able to take a bearing from a map and use that bearing to find a control point Combine map reading and compass skills Measure the distance between control points and, using the map scale, estimate the number of paces required to reach each control

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						Plan the most efficient route so that the course is completed in the quickest time Complete the orienteering course in the fastest time possible competing against others	Successfully undertake an orienteering competition using an unfamiliar map in a new location Demonstrate effective use of orientating a map, using a compass, setting, reading and following bearings, and scale to navigate around a orienteering course

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Play / Exploring	Introduction to rules and boundaries Promotion of free exploration Promotion of independent learning opportunities/skills Plant bulbs and watch them grow Autumn walk Search for butterflies Night walk during Reception sleepover.	Re-enforce rules and boundaries Travel safely over the terrain in Forest School Carry sticks safely Work in a team to co-operate and communicate clearly Discover what's in a pond Hunt for insects Roll down a hill Make a daisy chain Build a den	Re-enforce rules and boundaries of forest schools Move logs safely with support first Build a bridge Become a nature detective Get soaking wet in the rain Bird watching	Take part in outdoor challenges on own and in a team Climb a tree Make something out of wood Cook outdoors	Play woodland versions of games I can work in a team during wide games and scavenger hunts Make a sculpture Make up your own game and teach it to someone Treasure hunt	Orienteering with an OS map	Create a time capsule

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Using Tools	Introduction to tools (peelers for whittling, hammers, mallets, trowels and forks)	Continuation of the use of basic tools (cutting of string, peeler for whittling, bow saw to cut discs (1:1)	Continuation of the use of basic tools, larger ropes and independent cutting of string Use of bow saw 1-1 to cut discs and peelers for whittling	In Key Stage 2 children will develop their skills when using a range of tools. Tools will only be used when the children are physically, mentally and socially ready to do so. Children's ability to use tools will develop at different ages Peeler(1:1)	In Key Stage 2 children will develop their skills when using a range of tools. Tools will only be used when the children are physically, mentally and socially ready to do so. Children's ability to use tools will develop at different ages Loppers Secateurs Knives for whittling	In Key Stage 2 children will develop their skills when using a range of tools. Tools will only be used when the children are physically, mentally and socially ready to do so. Children's ability to use tools will develop at different ages	In Key Stage 2 children will develop their skills when using a range of tools. Tools will only be used when the children are physically, mentally and socially ready to do so. Children's ability to use tools will develop at different ages

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Knots	Tying shoe laces	Introduction to basic knots	More sophisticated use of knots for attaching to structures and trees Example - Overhand knot and half hitch Lashing and frapping techniques to make frames	More sophisticated use of knots for attaching to structures and trees Lashing and frapping frames and dual structures Example - Cow hitch	More sophisticated knots for attaching to structures and trees Independent use of lashing and frapping techniques	Shelter hitches and knots More complex knots and selecting the correct knot for a job	More complex knots and selecting the correct knot for a job

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Using Fire for Cooking	Observe and talk about fire lighting procedures, begin to contribute by selecting fuel Safety procedures - fire safety Toast marsh mellows during Reception sleepover.	Be safe around a fire Contribute to fire lighting by gathering suitable fuel. Links to Great Fire of London. Toast crumpets on an open fire with supervision.	Experience using fire strikers to spark a flame Light a piece of cotton wool (fairy pillow) Fire safety and the fire triangle. Cook an African dish on and open fire with supervision. E.g. couscous.	Light a fairy fire and keep it going. Cook campfire popcorn using suitable equipment effectively and safely with support.	Roast or fry ood on a fire with support e.g. toasted fruit kebabs.	Cooking on a camp fire (roast food) Make and tend a fire safely. Use cooking equipment effectively and safely e.g. boil a kettle and make a hot drink/or soup.	Prepare and light a campfire with supervision Use cooking equipment effectively and safely e.g. to cook drop scones or fry fish.