

Skelton Primary School



Forest Schools

Progression of Skills - Forest School

Shelter Building			
Nursery	Reception	Y1	Y2
Den building for small animals and toys. Using natural items to create dens	Introduction to basic shelter building Mini den building for small animals	Supported construction of tripod structures. (mini den building)	Independent use of tripod structures (animal den building)
		Erect a lean to shelter, with support	Introduction to lashing and frapping to make frame
			Make a lean- to shelter with limited support
Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Create a shelter using tarps	Design and build varying sized shelters using tarpaulins and materials found in Forest	Create a tipi shelter with camouflage	Shelter building challenges, working in teams the children plan, build and review shelters
Work successfully as a group to create a shelter	Schools	Work successfully as a group, having considered and evaluated each members'	Work successfully as a group, having
Compare and evaluate the shelters in relation to their sturdiness, durability and weatherproofing, assess if it is fit for purpose	Work successfully as a group, having considered and evaluated each members' contribution	contribution Compare and evaluate the shelters in	considered and evaluated each members' contribution
weather probling, assess in it is nit for purpose	Contribution	relation to their sturdiness, durability and weatherproofing, assess if it is fit for	Compare and evaluate the shelters in relation to their sturdiness, durability and
	Compare and evaluate the shelters in relation to their sturdiness, durability and weatherproofing, assess if it is fit for purpose	purpose	weatherproofing, assess if it is fit for purpose

Geographical Skills and Navigation

Nursery	Reception	Y1	Y2
Follow rules and boundaries, specifically when	Follow rules and boundaries, specifically	Use simple compass directions (North,	Use simple compass directions (North, South,
accessing the pond	when accessing the pond	South, East and West)	East and West)
Promote free exploration and investigation	Promote free exploration and investigation	Use simple directional language (near and far, left and right)	Use simple directional language (near and far, left and right)
Use positional language	Use positional language		
		Describe the location of features and routes on a map	Describe the location of features and routes on a map
		Recognise landmarks and human and physical features	Recognise landmarks and human and physical features
		Devise a simple map and use basic symbols on a key	Devise a simple map and use basic symbols on a key
Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Demonstrate understanding of the concept of	Recognises features and symbols on a map	Use eight points of a compass and four	Use eight points of a compass and four figure
a basic map		figure grid references	grid references (include OS maps)
	Understand how to orientate the map		
Navigate way around a simple orienteering		Plan a short loop course for another pair	Set, read and follow a bearing
course	Demonstrate understanding of a line	to follow	
	orienteering course (short loop) and star	Improve confidence in map reading and	Combine map reading and compass skills
Complete a simple 'star' orienteering activity in	orienteering (returning to base between	transferring information from map to	
pairs or small groups	each control)	ground	Measure the distance between control points
			and using the map scale, estimate the
	Build trust with a partner when completing		number of pace required to reach each
	star orienteering		control

Exploration and Play

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Nursery	Reception	Y1	Y2
Introduce to rules and boundaries	Introduce to rules and boundaries	Reinforce rules and boundaries	Reinforce rules and boundaries
Promotion of free exploration	Promotion of free exploration	Travel safely over terrain	
			Move logs safely with support
Promotion of independent learning	Promotion of independent learning	Carry sticks safely	
opportunities/skills	opportunities/skills		Build a bridge/investigate insects living in
		Work as a team to cooperate and	FS/bird watching/make sensory story sticks
Plant bulbs/sensory walks/search for insects	Show awareness of risk –	communicate clearly	
	brambles/nettles/water		
Show awareness of risk –		Discover what is living in the pond/make	
brambles/nettles/water	Plant bulbs/sensory walks/search for insects	a daisy chain/investigate the herb	
		garden/den building/tell well known	
		stories in the FS environment	
Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Take part in outdoor challenges on own and in	Play woodland versions of games	Create an orienteering course for friends	
groups			
	Play in a team during wide games and		
Make something out of wood/cook outdoors?	scavenger hunts		
	Make a sculpture/make up own nature gams		
	and teach it to a friend		
	Take part in nature treasure hunt		

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Nursery	Reception	Y1	Y2
Introduction to tools – peelers (with gloves) for	Introduction to tools – peelers (with gloves)	Continuation of the use of basic tools,	Continuation of the use of basic tools, larger
whittling, trowels and forks for planting	for whittling, trowels and forks for planting	peelers, hammer	ropes and independent cutting of string
Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
In KS2 children will develop their skills when	In KS2 children will develop their skills when	In KS2 children will develop their skills	In KS2 children will develop their skills when
using a range of tools. Tools will only be used	using a range of tools. Tools will only be used	when using a range of tools. Tools will	using a range of tools. Tools will only be used
when children are physically, emotionally and	when children are physically, emotionally	only be used when children are	when children are physically, emotionally and
mentally ready to do so	and mentally ready to do so	physically, emotionally and mentally	mentally ready to do so
		ready to do so	

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Nursery	Reception	Y1	Y2
N/a	Tying shoe laces	Introduction to basic knots	More sophisticated use of knots for attaching to structures to structures and trees
Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
More sophisticated use of knots for attaching to structures to structures and trees	More sophisticated use of knots for attaching to structures to structures and trees	More sophisticated use of knots for attaching to structures to structures and trees	More complex knots and ability to select the correct knot for the job.
Cow hitch	Wrapping and frapping frames (Independent use of lashing techniques	