

Progression Map - Forest School

Phase	General safety and risk	Tool Skills	Fire skills	Building skills	Rope skills	Activity/Experience
Foundation Stage	Basic safety – 123 where are you? Reporting dangers. Looking and thinking about area around. Stick safety. Boundaries. (rope across			Simple dens with tarps and sticks. Pegs to fix.	Handling ropes as flexible frames for artwork. Wrapping small ropes to create artwork.	Bug hunting Mud sculpture/mud kitchen Webs/weaving Story listening Identification Woodland art – create pieces of art with natural materials using ropes/sticks as frames.
Year 1/2	Risk assess site as a class.	Peelers introduced to whittle sticks.	Know fire safety rule of not walking in the fire area. NO FIRE AT THIS STAGE.	Bungees and ropes to fix dens.	Show children the timber hitch. This is how we can drag big logs safely.	As above + Blindfold walks using ropes Creating tracks and trails Creating 3D art sculptures with woodland materials (E.g. wands using whittled sticks, stick men using wrapped wool) Woodland singing!
Year 3/4	Risk assess individual activities. Discuss ways to reduce risk.	Loppers and secateurs for cutting smaller pieces of wood.	Watch a fire being lit. Cook popcorn using the popcorn maker. Fire safety rules. Select wood to use for firewood	Can they make their dens waterproof	Show children how to tie an overhand knot and a reef knot (left over right, right over left)	Group story telling Variety of woodland craft (E.g. dream catchers, crowns)
Year 5/6	Differentiate between hazard and risk. Devise ways to safety check constructions and activities. Adjust to boundaries of new site.	Hand saw for cutting larger logs.	Fire safety rules. Select wood to use for firewood. Have a go at lighting own fires using dragon breath cotton wool only. Cook a variety of different food.	Understand importance of choosing correct site. Think of ways to improve over consecutive sessions.	+ Show children how to tie a clove hitch. (Good to start lashing two pieces of wood together.)	Individual story telling. Nettle string Carving sticks Trails in woods using compasses Identification using binoculars