Forest School Vocabulary and Curriculum Knowledge and Skills Progression

Passion, Knowledge, Challenge

ACTIVITY	RUBY CLASS (EYFS)	EMERALD CLASS KS1	SAPPHIRE CLASS LKS2	DIAMOND CLASS UKS2
USING TOOLS	Know how to safely use a bow saw to make a tree cookie. Know how to safely use peelers to develop prewhittling skills. Know how safely use a mallet and a hammer. Vocabulary: bow saw, peeler, whittling, mallet, hammer	Know how to safely use secateurs for shelter building and thinning of the woodland. Know how to safely use peelers to whittle. Know how to safely use a hand saw. Know how to safely use palm drills. Know how to safely use mallets and hammers with increasing independence. Vocabulary: secateurs, thinning, peeler, whittling, palm drill, mallet, hammer	Know how to safely use loppers and a pruning saw for thinning etc. Know how to safely use hand/palm drills. Know how to safely use hammers and mallets independently. Vocabulary: loppers, pruning saw, thinning, palm drill, hand drill, hammer, mallet	Know how to safely use fixed blade knives for whittling. Know how to use hammers and mallets independently. Vocabulary: fixed-blade knife, whittling, hammer, mallet
DEVELOPING GEOGRAPHICAL SKILLS	Know the boundaries of the Wild Woods and stay within them. Know how to safely explore the Wild Woods area and know where certain landmarks are, i.e. the oak tree, the apple tree, the pond.	Know how to use simple compass (North, South, East and West) Know how to use directional language (near and far; left and right)	Beginning to know the eight points on a compass. Know how to recognise features and symbols on the map. Can show an understanding of how to orientate the map.	Know how to navigate using natural indicators. Know how to interpret a map. Know how to navigate using a map and compass (orienteering).

	Begin to know how to use simple maps to locate things (treasure hunt). Vocabulary: boundaries, map, landmark	Know how to describe the location of features and routes on a map. Can recognise landmarks and human and physical features. Know how to devise a simple map and use basic symbols in a key. Vocabulary: compass, North, South, East, West,	Can demonstrate understanding of a line orienteering course (short loop) and star orienteering. Vocabulary: compass, North- East, South-East, North-West, South-West, orientate, orienteering	Vocabulary: navigate, natural indicators
DEVELOPING PROBLEM-SOLVING AND TEAM WORK	Begin to know how to work in a small group to solve simple problems. Begin to know how to play well with others and listen to them. Can share their ideas with others.	Know how to effectively work as part of a team to solve problems. Know how to play and understand team games. Can communicate their ideas and thoughts clearly. Can listen to others.	Know how to co-operate and communicate clearly with others. Know how to build trust with their peers through games. Can share their thoughts and ideas and listen to the ideas of others.	Know how to lead a team. Know how to work well in a team, communicating clearly with others. Can share their thoughts and ideas and listen to the ideas of others.
UNDERSTANDING RISK ASSESSMENT	Know the signals to return to base: whistle for emergency, call any other time. Know the importance of hand washing before eating. Know the boundary of the site.	Know what risks there are in each layer of the Woodland. Know how to set the boundaries of the site. Know how to find hazards themselves and identify them to the class.	Know how to build structures safely. Show an understanding of the risks linked to cooking. Show an understanding of the risks when tree climbing. Know basic first aid.	Consolidate all prior knowledge.

	Know how to use a range of tools safely. Know how to drag large logs. Vocabulary: Emergency, base camp, boundaries, safety	Know how to use a range of tools safely. Know which plant species are poisonous. Vocabulary: Risks, hazards, poisonous	Know how to practice and role play emergency procedures. Vocabulary: Emergency procedures	Vocabulary: *consolidate all prior vocabulary*
UNDERSTANDING WOODLAND MANAGEMENT	Can name some plants and trees found in the grounds, i.e. mint, oak tree, daffodils.	Know the different layers of the woodland: Canopy, Shrub, Field, and Ground.	Can name some common birds they see the Wild Wood and talk about their features.	Know how to recognise pollution indicators in different habitats.
	Know how to identify the deciduous and evergreen trees in the Wild Woods. Can name of some animals found in our outside environment,	Know the basic structure of a plant/tree. Know some different seeds and how they are scattered in autumn.	Can name the common trees in our grounds. Can talk about how to encourage wildlife into our Wild Woods.	Know how to use and create a key to identify trees and animal tracking signs. Know how to age a tree using trigonometry.
	i.e. tadpoles, robin, snail, dragonfly.	Can name plants: holly, bracken, bramble/nettles, oak tree, bluebells.	Can carry out fieldwork – classifying and surveying animals.	Can identify different animal groups and describe their habitats.
	Know what plants and animals need to survive. Know some life cycles (butterfly) Know how to observe and	Can name woodland animals: deer, squirrel, badger. Can name some birds: pheasant, buzzard, and	Can match tracks and other signs to animals. Can name animals in the environment and group them.	Vocabulary: pollution indicators, identification key, tracking, trigonometry
	describe their surroundings and the weather. Know the different sounds that they hear in the Wild Woods.	woodpecker. Know some life cycles (frog).	Can describe the life cycle of a flowering plant and describe the function of the parts. Vocabulary: classify, fieldwork	

	Vocabulary: mint, Oak, Hazel, daffodils, cleavers, deciduous, evergreen, tadpole, snail, robin, dragonfly	Can name and identify some trees in our grounds by using a simple ID guide. Can observe and describe the changes in season. Vocabulary: canopy, shrub layer, field layer, ground layer, holly, bracken, bramble, nettles, bluebells, deer, squirrel, badger, pheasant, buzzard, woodpecker		
DEN BUILDING SKILLS	Know how to build a shelter with adult support using a variety of materials and pegs. Know how to build a miniden for animals. Can use their own ideas to construct things to use in play, i.e. bridges, cars, boats. Vocabulary: Shelter, construct	Know how to use tarps and pegs to independently build a shelter (tripod, lean to). Know how to independently build mini den for animals. Know they can use their own ideas to construct things to use in their play. Can talk about what worked well and make suggestions for improvements. Vocabulary: Tripod shelter, lean to shelter	Begin to describe how the structures they have made work. Know how to create shelters from tarps and use independent knot tying. Know how to evaluate my work. Know how to independently put up a tent. Know how to make constructions for a range of purposes: e.g. rafts, animal bridges, stick towers, sundials, water traps.	Know how to build a waterproof shelter and set up a camp. Know how to make constructions for different purposes: e.g. rafts, animal bridges, stick towers, sundials, water traps. Know how to create a tipi shelter with camouflage using natural materials. Know how to work successfully as a group, changing and developing ideas. Know how to compare and evaluate their constructions.

KNOT TYING SKILLS	Begin to know how to tie using basic knots (shoe tying). Vocabulary: knot	Begin to know how to use more sophisticated knots (clove hitch, overhand knot and half hitch) Begin to know how to use lashing and frapping techniques to make frames. Vocabulary: clove hitch, overhand knot, half hitch, lashing, frapping	Know how to use more sophisticated knots for attaching to structures and trees. Know how to use lashing and frapping techniques independently. Vocabulary: timber hitch, taut line hitch, round turn with 2 half hitches, lashing, frapping	Know how to make a quadrant using knots and lashings. Know how to use other knots they have requested to learn. Vocabulary: quadrant, square lashing
FIRE/COOKING SKILLS	Know the safety rules near the fire and can follow them Know the correct wood to collect: tinder, kindling, bigger sticks, branches, logs. Know how to make a fire pit. Know how to extinguish a fire. Know about fire safety awareness and how to play fire safety games. Know how to toast a marshmallow with adult support.	Know how to be safe around a fire and explain the rules of the fire circle to others. Know the 3 elements that keep a fire lit: oxygen, fuel, spark Know how to make sparks with a fire steel. Know the different shapes of fires. Know how to light a fire safely with close supervision. Know how to make a simple snack to cook on the fire-damper bread, popcorn	Know how to be safe around a fire and explain fire safety rules to others. Know how to light a fire safely, with supervision. Know how to help keep the main fire. Know how to follow a recipe and cook it on an open fire with minimal support. Know how to cook ash cakes, wild food fritters and brownie stuffed oranges on the fire. Vocabulary: Vocabulary: Vocabulary involved in explaining fire safety	Know how to light a fire using charcloth and hay and tend to it. Know how to prepare and cook on an open fire. Know how to make hazel macaroons, tortilla pancakes and popcorn on the fire. Vocabulary: charcloth

CREATING NATURAL ART	Know how to help make food to cook on the fire. Vocabulary: tinder, kindling, fire pit, extinguish Know how to use a range of materials to create artwork as demonstrated by an adult. Know they can use their own ideas to create art	Vocabulary: 3 fire elements, oxygen, fuel, spark, flint and steel Know how to use natural materials to create artwork that they can talk about. Know how to make a stick person, a journey stick and	Know how to accurately sketch trees and plants. Know how to choose shapes in nature to inspire their artwork.	Know how to use natural shapes and structures to inspire their artwork. Know how to print using natural materials.
	work (mud painting, clay work, land art)	a magic wand independently. Know how to use a range of materials to create artwork as demonstrated by an adult. Know how to use clay and weaving techniques to create artwork.	Know how to use watercolours to paint landscapes. Know how to use natural dyes and weaving techniques.	Know how to apply advanced drawing techniques to depict perspective, distance, shadow and reflection. Know how to sculpt using a range of tools and techniques. Know how to evaluate their work.
PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT AND TREE CLIMBING SKILLS	Know how to climb and balance on a range of equipment. Know how to carry small items safely and larger items with adult support. Know how to travel through areas safely, watching out for obstacles, i.e. tree roots, uneven surfaces.	Know how to carry large, heavy items safely. Know how to balance on a slack line. Know the benefits to being outside. Know how to climb a tree with 1: 1 guidance.	Know their own flexibility, strength, control and balance when participating in outdoor activities. Know how to take part in outdoor activities and challenges on their own and in a team. Know how to climb a tree (1: 1 guidance available).	Know how to responsibly take part in adventurous outdoor activities; challenging themselves and behaving safely. Know how to climb a tree independently. Know how to jump out of the tree from no higher than 2m.

	Know how to climb a tree with 1: 1 guidance. Know how to jump out of the tree with support. Know that they cannot climb above 1m to keep them safe.	Know how to jump out of the tree with support. Know that they cannot climb above 1m to keep them safe.	Know that they cannot climb above 2m to keep them safe. Know how to jump out of a tree from no higher than 1m.	
PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT	Are confident to try new things. Feel and show a sense of pride about what they can do. Know how and when to ask for help if they need it. Know they can talk about how they are feeling.	Know how to stay motived to try new things and to achieve a goal. Are becoming more confident and independent. Know they can feel proud of themselves for overcoming a challenge/persevering with a personal task. Know how to talk about their feelings and adjust their behavior accordingly. Know different ways to tackle a problem.	Know how to challenge themselves and persevere when things get difficult. Know ways to solve issues independently. Know how to recognise their strengths and their limitations and work to improve these. Know how to control their emotions and show empathy for others.	Are becoming more self-aware. Feel resilient and proud even when they make a mistake. Know how to make informed and well-reasoned decisions, recognizing that others have different beliefs and attitudes. Know how to anticipate, take and manage risks independently.