Forest School Curriculum

Forest school is where children are able to experience and learn about the natural world around them in a natural safe and secure environment. Activities are child led, the children have opportunities to take measured risks.

It develops self esteem, confidence and resilience. It enhances communication and language skills, physical development and gives opportunities for working together as a team.

We are a Unicef Rights Respecting School
The UN Convention on the Rights of the child
Article 24: Every child has the right to the best possible health.
Article 28: Every child has the right to an education.
Article 29: Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.
Article 31: Every child has the right to relax and play.

Forest School
Daisies
Autumn Term

Rules and Routines

We will learn and follow our rules of Forest School:

- We always wear waterproofs and wellingtons to keep us safe.
- We never put anything into our mouths not even our fingers(No pick, no lick)
- We walk around the outside of the fire circle.

Communication and Language Vocabulary

Forest
Trees
Leaves
Autumn
Winter
Squirrel

Personal development

With help we will put on and take off our waterproof suits and wellies.

With help we will wash our hands thoroughly once we have changed and returned to class.

We will develop our movement and balance.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We can explore the forest area with our family group.

Understanding the World

We will look for autumnal and winter changes.
We will access and experience the outdoors in all weathers.
We will respect the natural world around us.

Daisies will access the Forest School environment in an immersive and exploratory way, taking part in activities should they wish to.

Fun Activities

Mud kitchen role play
Forest walks
Collecting natural resources
Natural arts and crafts
Shelters
Finding animals and birds linked to our stories

Forest School
Daisies Spring
Term

Rules and Routines

We will learn and follow our rules of Forest School:

- We always wear waterproofs and wellingtons to keep us safe.
- We never put anything into our mouths not even our fingers(No pick, no lick)
- We walk around the outside of the fire circle.

Communication and Language

We will begin to use a wider range of vocabulary to talk about what we see.

Vocabulary

Spring
Flowers
Shoots
Growing

Physical Development

We will put on and take off our waterproof suits and wellies more independently.

We will independently wash our hands thoroughly once we have changed and returned to class.

We will develop our awareness of navigating space.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will be able to explore with our key person nearby.
We will be able to take part in group activities.

Understanding the World

We will observe winter and spring changes.
We will develop our own ideas when choosing materials to create.
We will begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment.

Fun Activities

Mud kitchen role play
Shelter Building
Role play
Forest beast hunts
Bird hunts
Making bird feeders
Making dancing sticks
Natural crafts

Daisies will access the Forest School environment in an immersive and exploratory way, taking part in activities should they wish to.

Forest School
Daisies
Summer Term

Rules and Routines

We will learn and follow our rules of Forest School:

- We always wear waterproofs and wellingtons to keep us safe.
- We never put anything into our mouths not even our fingers(No pick, no lick)
- We walk around the outside of the fire circle.

Communication and Language

We can use words to describe what we see and what we would like to do.

Vocabulary

Summer
Flowers
Sunshine
Bugs
Butterflies

Physical Development

We will put on and take off our waterproof suits and wellies by ourselves.

We will independently wash our hands thoroughly once we have changed and returned to class.

We can use tools (pegs, spades, magnifying glasses more independently.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will be able to explore with our key person nearby.
We will be able to take part in group activities.
We can work together to play in the different areas of forest school.

Understanding the World

We will observe spring and summer changes.
We can find the resources that we would like to use in our play.
We begin to understand how living things grow and change. (Butterflies)

Fun Activities

Bug hunting
Bug hotel
Den Building
Butterfly life cycle
Nature walk

Daisies will access the Forest School environment in an immersive and exploratory way, taking part in activities should they wish to.

Forest School
Sunflowers
Autumn Term

Rules and Routines

We will learn and follow our rules of Forest School:

- We always wear waterproofs and wellingtons to keep us safe.
- We never put anything into our mouths not even our fingers(No pick, no lick)
- We walk around the outside of the fire circle.

Communication and Language

We will try to ask and answer questions.
We can use new vocabulary in our own play with reminders from grown ups.

Vocabulary

Autumn
Seasons
Leaves
Environment
Habitat

Physical Development

We will practise putting on and taking off our waterproof suits and wellies by ourselves. (Our grown ups will help us sometimes.)

We will independently wash our hands thoroughly once we have changed and returned to class.

We can use tools (pegs, spades, magnifying glasses more independently.

We will develop our strength and balance and move in lots of different ways.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will be able to explore with our key person nearby.
We will be able to take part in group activities.
We can work together to play in the different areas of forest school.
We will explore, discover and initiate our own learning taking manageable risks.

Understanding the World

We will learn about autumnal and winter changes
We will access and experience the outdoors in all weathers.
We will respect the natural world around us.
We will learn how to plant bulbs and seeds.
We will explore colour and texture in the natural world.

Fun Activities

Forest exploration
Bug hunts
Physical forest school ("Leafaerobics")
Mud kitchen potion making
Shelter building

Sunflowers will access the Forest School environment through both free exploration and adult led small group sessions.

Forest School Sunflowers Spring Term

Rules and Routines

We will learn and follow our rules of Forest School:

- We always wear waterproofs and wellingtons to keep us safe.
- We never put anything into our mouths not even our fingers(No pick, no lick)
- We walk around the outside of the fire circle.

Communication and Language

We can ask and answer questions during group and independent learning time.

We can use new vocabulary in our own play.

Vocabulary

Spring
Fire
Fire safety
Winter Life Cycle
Mini Beasts
Planting
Sowing
Butterfly life cycle

Physical Development

We will put on and take off our waterproof suits and wellies by ourselves.

We will independently wash our hands thoroughly once we have changed and returned to class.

We can find and use tools independently.

We will develop our strength and balance and move in lots of different ways.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will be able to explore with our key person nearby.

We will be able to take part in group activities.

We can work together to play in the different areas of forest school.

We will explore, discover and initiate our own learning taking manageable risks.

We will start to become independent learners and not give up when we face a challenge.

We keep ourselves safe around fire.

Understanding the World

We will learn about winter and spring changes.

We will notice what happens to some plants and animals during winter and spring.

We will learn about life cycles of some mini beasts.

We will learn about the growth of our seeds and bulbs.

We will access and experience the outdoors in all weathers.

We will respect the natural world around us.

We learn about fire and fire safety.

Fun Activities

Camp fire
Investigating new growth
Mark making (recording and drawing our observations.
Planting seeds and bulbs
Bug hunt

Sunflowers will access the Forest School environment through both free exploration and adult led small group sessions.

Forest School Sunflowers Summer Term

Rules and Routines

We will learn and follow our rules of Forest School:

- We always wear waterproofs and wellingtons to keep us safe.
- We never put anything into our mouths not even our fingers(No pick, no lick)
- We walk around the outside of the fire circle.

Communication and Language

We can ask and answer questions during group and independent learning time.
We can use new vocabulary in our own play.

Vocabulary

Summer
Tools
Lopper
Secateurs
Woodwork

Physical Development

We will put on and take off our waterproof suits and wellies by ourselves.

We will independently wash our hands thoroughly once we have changed and returned to class.

We can find and use tools independently. We learn how to use secateurs and loppers.

We will develop our strength and balance and move in lots of different ways.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will be able to explore with our key person nearby.
We will be able to take part in group activities.
We can work together to play in the different areas of forest school.
We will explore, discover and initiate our own learning taking manageable risks.
We will start to become independent learners and not give up when we face a challenge.

Understanding the World

We will learn about summer changes and relate them to changes through the seasons.
We will notice what happens to some plants and animals during summer.
We will learn about life cycles of butterflies.
We will learn how our seeds and bulbs grow into flowers and vegetables.
We will access and experience the outdoors in all weathers.
We will respect the natural world around us.

Fun Activities

Investigating the flowers and plants that we have grown
Woodwork using secateurs and loppers
Willow crafts
Bug hunts
Den and Shelter building
Butterfly life cycle

Sunflowers will access the Forest School environment through both free exploration and adult led small group sessions.