

Early Years – example termly programme

Week	Forest School Theme	Session overview
1	Introduction to the woods	Respect for the woods and staying safe. Listening stones. Treasure hunt.
2	Minibeast hunt	How to be respectful and gentle to minibeasts & their habitats. Observational skills. Differences and similarities.
3	Signs of Spring	Look for the signs of Spring. Build a “giant” bird’s nest – what materials are best?
4	Using our senses: touch	Plant identification. Identifying plants and their leaves. What is safe to touch and what is not? Blindfold leaf recognition.
5	Story-telling with story stones	What are stories and how do they work? Using story stones to make up stories. Make ground art to show the story.
6	Using our senses: sight	Looking at habitats. Close observation of range of habitats. Which minibeasts live where – and why? Collection pots and ID cards. Make clay minibeasts.
7	Making mini-dens	Stick safety rules. Using natural (and already dead) materials to make mini dens. Which materials are strongest?
8	Tracking and trailing	Introduce the idea of making trails / tracking a trail. Using natural materials make a trail for others to find you.
9	Exploring pond life	Water safety rules. Respecting living creatures. Using nets, trays and ID cards to identify water minibeasts.
10	Natural art – mud faces	Using mud or clay, and foraged natural materials, create “tree faces”. Make characters from a story to tell the story.