

COLLECTING NATURAL MATERIALS RISK ASSESSMENT

This activity risk assessment must be used in conjunction with:

Risk Assessments: General Welfare & Weather

Procedures: Lifting

Specific Site Woodland Assessment

Site Safety

Related Activity Risk Assessments

ASSESSOR C. Clutterbuck

DATE: 12.07.24

Forest School Leaders: CC (Charlotte Clutterbuck)/PM (Paul McCormick)/

REVIEW DATE: 1.09.25

	HAZARD	HARM	PERSONS AT RISK	EXISTING PREVENTATIVE MEASURES	PROBABILITY (P) 1-5	SEVERITY (S) 1-5	RATING (P) X (S) 1-25	WHAT MEASURES NEED TO BE TAKEN	BY WHO/ confirmation of understanding or completion
1	Weather	Hypothermia Sunburn	The Group & Leaders	A General Welfare & weather risk assessment completed				The group will be fully equipped to deal with potential dangers arising from poor weather and welfare issues.	Forest School Leaders need to check weather forecasts and ensure all safety equipment is in position.
2	Woodland Site	Slips, trips, falls, bangs	The Group & Leaders	Woodland Site specific Risk Assessment completed				The group will be made aware of aspects highlighted in the woodlands Site Risk Assessment.	Forest School Leaders will ensure that the woodlands Risk Assessment is used on site.
3	Lifting materials	Back injury, muscle strain, injury	The Group & Leaders	Lifting Procedures implemented	1	4	4	The group need to understand and practice lifting procedure.	Forest School Leaders will ensure that the correct lifting procedures are being used.
4	Insects and plants	Stung, anaphylactic shock	The Group & Leaders	Avoiding areas that contain stinging plants and insects	4 1	1 5	4 5	Explain which plants may sting and avoid areas containing them.	Forest School Leaders
5	Litter and debris	Cutting hand	The Group & Leaders	The area has been risk assessed considering occurrence of litter	3	2	6	Ensure the group are aware of potential hazards and investigate areas carefully. If any	Forest School Leaders

								potentially harmful litter is observed the leader is to be informed. The group are told not to touch it.	
6	Uneven ground	Trip, slip, falls	The Group & Leaders	Activity area has its own risk assessment which considers trip and slip hazards	3	3	9	Ensure group are told to watch out for trip/slip hazards before activity commences. Explain to the group how to move around safely, not running or pushing.	Forest School Leaders and Tonacliffe Staff
7	Low branches and trees	Banging, poking eyes	The Group & Leaders	Areas are chosen to avoid sites with eye height branches. Or safety goggles will be worn.	3	3	9	Ensure the group are aware of any dangers these hazards may pose. Make sure the group move carefully around the wood without moving quickly.	Forest School Leaders and Tonacliffe Staff
8	Dog faeces	Infection and disease	The Group & Leaders	Areas with a high number of dog walkers are avoided	2	2	4	Ensure the group are aware of this potential problem. Leaders and supporting adults to carry antibacterial wipes in case of contact with animal faeces.	Forest School Leaders and Tonacliffe Staff
9	Lifting and swinging sticks	Bangs	The Group & Leaders	The group are shown how to lift and carry sticks carefully	3	3	9	The leader will step in to control a situation when branches are not being carried correctly.	Forest School Leaders
10	Fungus	Poison	The Group & Leaders	Areas with high numbers of fungi will not be used	3	2	6	Group are shown a fungus or pictures of them so that they can avoid touching them.	Forest School Leaders and Tonacliffe Staff
11	Toxic plants	Poison	The Group & Leaders	Access to areas containing toxic plants will be restricted	1	4	4	The group will be told not to eat anything that they find and will clean	Forest School Leaders and Tonacliffe Staff

								their hands before eating food.	
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RATING- The **probability** multiplied by the **severity** gives a figure from 1 to 25. Any hazard scoring above **12** will need to have immediate additional control measures put in place to prevent a serious incident.