

Outdoor Learning – Cam Hopton CE Primary

COLLECTING NATURAL MATERIALS RISK ASSESSMENT

This activity risk assessment must be used in conjunction with Lifting and Site Safety procedures and risk assessments for:

- General Welfare and Weather
- Woodland Specific Site Assessment

ASSESSOR:

DATE: 03/26

REVIEW DATE: 03/27

	HAZARD	L	S	PREVENTATIVE MEASURES	New Level of risk	BY WHO
1	Weather: hypothermia, sunburn	3	1	A general Welfare and Weather Risk Assessment completed and to be followed.	low	Teacher on the day
2	Woodland Site: slips, trips, falls, scrapes, cuts & bangs	2	1	Woodland site risk assessment. The group, volunteers and leaders will be made aware of aspects highlighted in the Woodlands Risk Assessment and will sign a document to say they have read and understood potential issues. Teacher/TA to ensure it is used on site during sessions.	low	Teacher on the day
3	Lifting Materials: injuries to back, muscles	2	2	The group and all leaders will read and practise lifting procedure modelling it to children and parents when the need arises Teacher/TA to observe and monitor that the correct procedure are being used.	medium	Teacher on the day
4	Insects & Plants: stings & bites – anaphylactic shock	2	3	Avoiding areas that contain stinging plants and insects. Teacher/TA to conduct a Site Safety Check before the start of each session. If necessary cordon off potentially unsafe areas using the hazard tape. Explain and show plants that may sting and avoid areas containing them. Discuss use of the hazard tape.	medium	Teacher on the day
5	Litter & Debris: cuts, scrapes, infection	1	2	The area has been risk assessed considering the occurrence of litter. Teacher/TA to ask SLT to discuss issues with litter and nature in assemblies.	low	Teacher on the day

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				If litter becomes more problematic, Teacher/TA to organise some children to complete a safe litter pick (using tools provided). Ensure children know to report litter to an adult and not to pick it up without the proper safe litter picking equipment. Investigate area to be used carefully during the pre-session check.		
6	Uneven Ground: trip, slip, fall	2	2	Activity areas have their own risk assessment which considers slips and trip hazards. Teacher/TA pre-session safety checks to spot any new hazards. Children told to move around the site with care and respect for each other and nature. Children to watch out for potential hazards and report them to adult immediately if they spot anything. Hazard tape to be used as a temporary measure to cordon off area.	medium	Teacher on the day
7	Low Branches & Trees: Bangs, poking eyes	2	2	Areas will be chosen as much as possible to avoid eye height branches. Children will be educated talk to keep in mind this potential hazard and to be more conscious of other around. Teacher/TA to model good techniques and behaviours when working on the site. Ensure group are aware of any dangers these hazards may pose. Make sure the group move carefully around the wood, looking out for each other and without moving quickly or carelessly	medium	Teacher on the day
8	Dog/fox & Cat Faeces: Infection, disease	2	2	Teacher/TA to make this part of the pre-session check. Unfortunately, cats and dogs might enter the school site. Group/leaders to report anything they find. Teacher/TA to carry pooh bags to clean up the faeces. Ensure group are aware of this potential problem. Teacher to carry anti-bacterial wipes in case of contact with animal faeces.	Medium	Teacher on the day

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9	Lifting & Swinging Sticks: Bangs, scrapes	2	1	Model how to lift and carry sticks carefully. Thumb on top and drag. Teacher to step in and control a situation when procedures are not being followed. Leaders to observe and monitor as well as model good practice.	low	Teacher on the day
10	Fungus: poison	2	1	On site, we do not have many types of fungi, however areas with high number of fungi to be avoided. Group to be told never to touch fungi as they can be extremely hazardous. When fungi is found, group to use the identification key (from Woodland Trust) to learn about its characteristics.	low	Teacher on the day
11	Toxic Plants: poison	2	3	Areas containing toxic plants to be restricted. The group will be told not to eat anything that they find. Group will wash their hands or clean them using the anti-bacterial wipes before eating any food. DON'T LICK OR PICK; BE CAREFUL WITH STICKS	medium	Teacher on the day

Risk Matrix

Likelihood (L)

Severity (S)

Risk Rating

1 = Unlikely

1 = Minor

1–3 = Low

2 = Possible

2 = Moderate

4–6 = Medium

3 = Likely

3 = Major

7–9 = High