

Outdoor Learning Knowledge and Skills Progression

Subject co	Subject content						
EYFS	Topic	Knowledge	Skills	Tools			
Cycle 1	Knots	Using ropes and string to create art https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MvmSJ7lYn_k Looking at simple knots https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CAvccQzkxNc	Wrapping small ropes/string to create artwork. Learning how to tie a simple knot.	Paint, rope, string, paper, wool,			
Cycle 1	Water	Investigating ice on a cold day in the outdoor classroom. What happens when we put it in the shade or the sun? Defrosting frozen eggs/hands to release jewels. Learning to use pipettes.	Using warm, cold, coloured, salted water to defrost frozen hands/eggs to release the jewels. What works best? Using pipettes correctly.	Frozen hands/eggs with jewels, water, food salt, colouring, pipettes			
Cycle 1	Constructions	Bird feeders Understanding when and why the birds need bird feeders. E.g., a hard winter where food is difficult to find. Young chicks in the spring to grow. Observation, bird watchers. Counting different kinds of birds that come to the feeders.	Working with suet/lard with the bird seed around string to hang in the outdoor area. Learning about British birds and observing which ones come to the bird feeders.	Suet/lard, bird seed, string, Binoculars, paper, bird reference pictures.			
Cycle 2	Tools	Learn to hold scissors correctly. Learn to snip with scissors during funky fingers and free flow activities, cutting different lines, zigzags, circles, squares and triangles. Cut pictures from magazines to use in collage.	Scissor's skills, cutting accurately. Using fine motor skills to hold the paper in the right direction and cut successfully.	Scissors			
Cycle 2	Den Building	Use large scale construction e.g., bricks to build a simple den. Using fabric for the roof. Peg fabric together to make a den on the gate/fence.	Simple dens with tarps and sticks. Pegs to fix. Co-operation, listening to others' ideas. Working together as a team. Using a plan, do, review approach.	Bricks, pegs, fabric, tarps.			
Cycle 2	Fire/ Cooking	Fire safety – what creates a fire, e.g., spark, fuel and oxygen. You tube on how to light a fire. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0O3Bj8JFcTc	To know what tools are needed, e.g., matches, kindling, sticks, paper, Vaseline and cotton wool.	Re-create a fire using sticks and paper. Colour the paper different colours to represent fire. Watch a fire being lit and cook marshmallows.			



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Key stag	Key stage 1						
Year 1 and Year 2	Topic	Knowledge	Skills	Tools			
1 and 2 Cycle 1	Knots	How to tie simple knots https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CAvccQzkxNc Show children how to tie an overhand knot (Yr 1) and a reef knot (Yr 2), (left over right, right over left) In small groups, adult demonstrates how to tie a knot in stages.	Using rope/string to tie simple knots	Rope, string, wool,			
1 and 2 Cycle 1	Water	Manipulating water (Yr 1) making it warm, colouring the water, using water to create a channel for objects to travel down. Ice (Yr 2) how does ice form? How can we create ice?	Using a plan, do review approach observing what happens to water and how we use it to control objects. Observing water as it changes to ice.	Guttering, water, ice cube trays freezer.			
1 and 2 Cycle 1	Constructions	Bug hotels (Yr 1). Using a cardboard box and tubes with seeds in some to create a bug hotel. Construct a bird feeder (Yr 2) from recycling. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CW7UYp9kLi0 https://explorify.uk/en/activities/problem-solvers/plastic-fantastic Explorify explain the problem with plastic and how we can recycle	Learning which bugs use the bug hotel, ants, ladybirds, wood lice. Using recycled items to make bird feeders, how that it good for both the birds and the environment.	Cardboard boxes, toilet rolls, seeds, plastic bottles, string, seeds, egg boxes.			



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Year 1 and Year 2	Topic	Knowledge	Skills	Tools
1 and 2 Cycle 2	Tools	Learning to use a peeler safely in the right direction to peel vegetables and then to whittle sticks.	Peelers introduced to peel vegetables (yr 1) and whittle sticks to make wands (yr 2).	Peelers, vegetables e.g., carrots, potatoes and sticks.
1 and 2 Cycle 2	Den Building	Looking at creating different types of dens in the outdoor learning area. Using the environment to support their den e.g., trees, fence. (yr 1) What would make it waterproof? Looking at different material and what makes it waterproof e.g., tarps (yr 2).	Using fabric in the outdoor learning area. Creating dens using the knot skills to tie ropes and secure their structure. Pegs to fix + Bungees and ropes to fix dens (yr 1) + Can they make their dens waterproof? (yr 2).	Rope, pegs, fabric, tarps
1 and 2 Cycle 2	Fire/ Cooking	Fire safety – what creates a fire, e.g., spark, fuel and oxygen. You tube on how to light a fire. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0O3Bj8JFcTc Know fire safety rule: Not walking in the fire area. Reporting dangers. Looking and thinking about area around where the fire is to be built.	Matches, kindling, sticks, paper, Vaseline and cotton wool. Collect wood to use for firewood.	Cook popcorn (yr 1) and bread (yr 2) over a fire.