



Forest School - Outdoor Learning Midterm Planning - Summer A

Class: Percy the Park Keeper

Year: 1

Literacy Tree story: Stanley's Stick / Dinosaur and all that Rubbish

Week 1 - Can we move the Tortoise up the hill?

Children enter fire circle in a line and sit on next available log. Discuss fire safety and role of flags. Discuss what happens if whistle blows. Show soft toy (Barnaby?) Explain children are going to use pulleys and ropes to move the 'Toy'. Children move to the three Cherry trees in the centre of the field. Discuss how pulleys work. Children help build a pulley system to move the Toy from the first to the third tree. How else can we lift weights? Discuss children's ideas. Explain children are going to use ropes and buckets to lift bricks over a branch. Why is it easier to use the pulleys than rope and bucket? Children drink hot chocolate or squash sat around trees.

Week 2 - Can I use natural materials to make a tortoise?

Children enter fire circle in a line and sit on next available log. Discuss what happens if whistle blows. Talk about fire safety & role of flags. Look at a picture of a tortoise. Discuss the shapes Tortoise's shell. Are there any gaps? Why not? Explain in groups, children are going to make a collage using natural materials, e.g., bark, sticks, pebbles/ stones & leaves in shape of tortoise. Move to shelter tables. Show children a rectangle stick frame. Explain collage should fit inside the frame to create a tortoise which stands out from background. There must be no spaces left inside frame. Children work together in groups to create frames tying off with double knots, with support as needed. Children collect materials in group trays then create collages. Children look at other group's collages. What have they done well? How could they

Week 3 - Can I use spirals to make a shell shape?

Children enter fire circle in a line & sit on next available log. Discuss fire safety & role of flags. Discuss what happens if whistle blows. Remind children of Tortoise shell collages made previous session. Explain this time they are going to create spirals using bark. Children move to log tables. Children draw pictures of a tortoise on A6 card. Remind children of safety rules for using peelers. Children then use peelers to remove bark from fresh sticks top to bottom. Explain they need to collect the bark they are removing to create spirals for their tortoise pictures. Children roll the bark into spirals & use wood glue to stick to the A6 card, creating their tortoise shell. Children drink hot chocolate or squash sat at log tables.

Week 4 - Can I create spiral patterns on a clay tile?

Children enter fire circle in a line & sit on next available log. Discuss fire safety & role of flags. Move to tables by shelter. Show children how to create a clay tile by rolling out clay and using blunt knife to cut out a square. Discuss how to decorate tile. Explain children are going to make spiral patterns on their tile. Model using string to push pattern into clay, then show how to use beech nut shells. What else could you use? Children go to wild area & field to find natural materials for their spiral patterns. They then work clay & roll out on clay boards. They create tile using natural materials /string to make their spiral patterns. What do you like about your tile? How could you improve it. Children drink hot chocolate or squash according to weather.

Week 5 - Is it a physical feature?

Children enter fire circle in a line & sit on next available log. Discuss fire safety & role of flags. Discuss Bridgwater, can you think of any physical features of the town? Explain physical features are natural not man-made. Discuss features. Explain children are going on a hunt for photos of physical & manmade features e.g., a mountain, sea, beach, forest, clock tower, house, church. Children work in groups to find photos and write name of features found on sheet under headings Physical / Man-made. Children return to the fire circle. Ask children to name the features they found. Discuss which features are Physical E.g., wood, or Man-made. E.g., Bridgwater & Taunton Canal. Ask: How do you know? Explain why you think that... Children drink hot chocolate or squash sat on logs.

Week 6 - Can I make a fossil?

Children enter fire circle in a line & sit on next available log. Discuss fire safety & role of flags. Discuss what happens if whistle blows. Ask children what they know about fossils. What are they? How were they formed? Tell children fossils are often found on pebble & rock beaches. Move to tables by shelter. Explain children are going to make their own spiral fossils, but first need to make a 'mould'. Model making a small spiral using clay, then create patterns on spiral using clay tools/ natural materials. Place the clay spiral in the bottom of a paper/plastic cup. Children make their clay spiral, then pour plaster over clay **with adult support. (Adults make up P of P)** Explain it needs to wait a while to go hard. Ask: Why have we made spirals? What else could we have made? Why do you think that? Children drink hot chocolate or squash sat around fire circle. If set, children turn out fossil, removing clay from bottom.