

Autumn Term 1

Go Wild

Year 2

We have had a wonderful six weeks of outdoor learning and I wanted to share with you what the Year 2 children have been doing in their sessions. Our outdoor learning supported the Year 2 topic, 'Would you like to live without trees?' Enjoy!

Miss Hill - Outdoor Learning Lead



Identification Fauna and Flora

We began our sessions learning about different trees and plants in the school grounds and how to identify them. We learnt about those that are safe for us to use and those we should avoid touching, such as; nettles, brambles, holly, ivy, Lords and Ladies as well as different berries and fruits. The children worked in pairs to locate different trees and plants and then found out what they were.





FRIENDSHIP

The children had to work together to make friendship bracelets. Whilst the result was a lovely bracelet, the children also developed fine motor skills, ability to communicate, cooperate, work together and support each other. This proved to be a popular activity, which the children continued to practise independently in subsequent GO WILD sessions. This led to improved self esteem, as the children witnessed an improvement in their abilities through repeated practise.





Digging Nature Tray Rope Swing

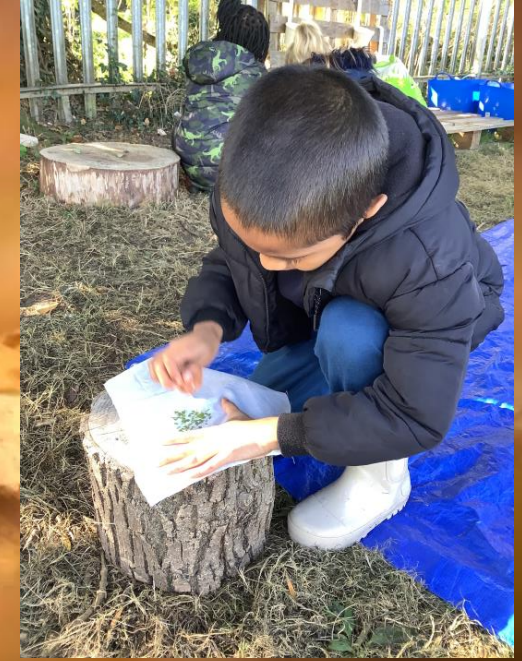
Listening to the children communicate with each other and chatting about finding fossils was delightful to hear! Discovering huge roots and the realization that they belonged to the tree a couple of metres away demonstrates the wonderful discoveries that can be made through nature!

As well as developing communication and cognitive skills, the children's gross and fine motor skills continue to be developed. Their understanding of how to assess and manage risk is also a large part of our sessions.



Leaf Rubbing and Hapa Zome

Another firm favourite was creating leaf prints on pieces of fabric. The delight of using nature to create art was clear to see, as was the enjoyment of the process. The children used stones and tools to hammer the leaves, releasing the colour onto the fabric and creating a print. Some children tried traditional leaf rubbings on paper too.



Hapa Zome

As well as being a super fun activity to try, the beauty is that it can be completed with limited resources. Once given their fabric, the children sourced 'safe' leaves to try out. They realised that some worked better than others, but the fun is testing them out!





Mud Kitchen

A great addition to any outdoor area...and it can be as simple as a few pots and pans!

Sorting, mixing materials, fine motor, communication skills, cooperation, compromise, imagination, engagement, purpose, challenges, sensory exploration, properties of materials and who doesn't like to get messy?

