



Curriculum links

Science

Unit 2B Plants and animals in the local environment

Unit 2C Variation

Literacy

Unit 6 Dramatic conventions

Art and Design

Unit 2B Mother Nature, designer

Citizenship

Unit 1 Taking part – developing skills of communication and participation

Learning objective

To use stories and narrative to explore and understand the environment around us

Introduction

The pack is suitable for use with around 30 participants divided into up to 5 groups. In the pack there are:

Instructions showing how to use the activities.

Materials and equipment for 5 groups and their leaders.

A risk assessment for the site and the activities in the pack.

A checklist of contents.

Activities for KS1:

- Story Telling
- Story Stick
- Pass it on story

Activities for KS2:

- Story Telling
- Pass it on story

Using the site

Please begin your visit with a talk about using the site.

Wildlife sites are home to many animals, plants and insects and you'll meet some of them on your visit, please treat them with respect. Human visitors who come to enjoy the wildlife too, so please keep the site looking good. When you have completed an activity, please try to put everything back as you found it, e.g. turn any dead wood you have looked underneath back over or scatter the leaves you picked discretely.

If there site has a pond and wet areas, make sure you know where these areas are and if you are using any of them, that participants are supervised.

Checklist

Please ensure that everything is there before you return the pack and report any losses.

Children of the Forest

The Magic Faraway Tree

The Wild Woods

Stick Man

Hansel and Gretel

A Forest of Stories

The Shaman's Apprentice

Folder A - Story Stick guide.

Elastic bands

Bag of 30 prompts



Key



Where



Resources



Equipment



Instructions

KS1 and KS2 Story Telling



Preferably an outdoor area, though can be done indoors if necessary.



Story books



To get participants in the mood for story telling, find a place where you can sit comfortably and read one of the selection of stories in the pack. Follow up with some questions: was it a good story? What makes a good story? Was it fact or fiction? How do you know? For KS2: why do we like scary stories? Does the story have a message?

The most suitable stories for KS1 are: Children of the Forest, The Magic Faraway Tree, The Wild Woods and Stick Man.

The most suitable stories for KS2 are: Hansel and Gretel, a Forest of Stories and The Shaman's Apprentice.

KS1 Story stick



Any outdoor area.



Story Stick guide in Folder A



Story sticks are a great way to encourage the children to remember what they saw on their nature walk. It involves looking for natural objects, trying to identify what they might be, attaching them to the stick, and then regrouping, either outdoors or back in the classroom and using their imagination to create stories about what they have found.

KS1 and KS2 Pass it on story



Preferably an outdoor area, though can be done indoors if necessary.



Bag of 30 prompts



This activity provides the children with an opportunity to invent their own stories using their imagination, and objects found in the prompt bag. This contains a mixture of natural items (fir cones, leaves etc) and non-natural items representing a range of aspects of daily and imaginary life!

Ask the children to sit or stand in a circle. Explain that they are going to be making up a story for each other, using items from the bag as prompts for their story. Pass the bag around to give the children time to think about their object. You could begin the story with "Once upon a time, a group of children visited a wood. In this wood, there was...". Ask the first child to speak a few words or sentences inspired by their object to weave it into the story. Be prepared to interject if the story loses its way. Continue like this all around the circle, or until you have run out of prompt materials, time or imagination!