

The March Forest School Newsletter Sept wk 3



Although we are in the forest and the children are out of the class environment, they are still learning mathematical and problem solving skills. Niamh was measuring a stick against her arm to make sure she had the right size for kindling to start the fire.

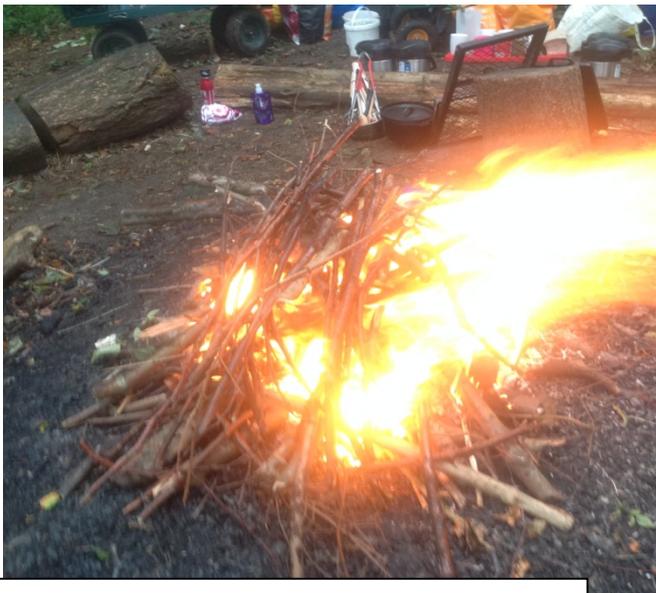
A BIG thank you to Mrs Hughes-Jones, Mrs Parker, Mrs Andrews, and Mrs Pearce - our champion volunteers this week, for their fine cooking skills and enthusiasm! Mrs Pearce is a qualified Nutritionist who has been tempting us with some exciting ways to cook a pineapple! (They have come to every session- and are loving it !) If you are able to help, please come and join us

An excerpt from The Guardian Wednesday 27 July

'Children today spend half the time their parents did playing outside, a survey suggests. Almost all (96%) of the 1,001 parents with children aged between four and 14 quizzed for the National Trust thought it was important their children had a connection with nature and thought playing outdoors was important for their development. The research found, on average, children were playing outside for just over four hours a week, compared to 8.2 hours a week when the adults questioned were children.

The Trust is also championing the humble stick as the "must-have" toy to inspire children's imaginations and creative play. Musician and Game Of Thrones star, Raleigh Ritchie, has teamed up with the National Trust for the campaign. He said: "For some people, a stick is just a stick. However, I want to encourage young people to see that actually the possibilities are endless. It can be a pen, a sword, a witch's broom, a dragon's bone ... anything. "That's what childhood should be about: getting outdoors and going on adventures, using your imagination to customise the world you see and feeding that appetite for fresh air and fun." Child psychologist Dr Sam West said being outside encouraged children to play in a way different from

Despite the damp start this morning, we managed to have a blazing fire. The children became mesmerised by the leaping flames and sat on the logs chatting and enjoying the warmth and comfort that a real fire gives.



This week we have been making our own vegetable stew, which the children helped to prepare. They have been learning how to handle simple tools like potato peelers safely and correctly and of course if you've helped to cook your food, you're more likely to try it! Joshua was a whizz with the parsnips

Mrs Andrews inspired the children to have a go at creating their own cobwebs. This took a fair amount of patience and Niamh was delighted when she actually managed to get a real spider to take up residence in her web!

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