



RISK ASSESSMENT – Collection of natural materials

Location/Activity:	Stoneydelph Forest School	Date:	January 2025
FS Leader:	Miss Sarah Kidner	Review date:	January 2026

Low risk – a minor injury e.g. scratch or bruise

Medium risk – significant loss/damage or injury such as broken bones (requires hospital trip)

High risk – extensive loss, multiple injuries or death

Hazard	Who is at risk?	Risk	Potential level of risk:	Control measures and who is responsible for actions	Level of risk after control	Risk benefit
Stick play	Adults/children	Slips, trips, falls, cuts, scratches, grazes, abrasions	Medium	Children encouraged not to pick up sticks longer than their arm FSL to demonstrate how to carry a stick (assist if necessary) Stick to be pointed away from other children Adult supervision during stick play	Low	Exploration of natural materials give the opportunity for spatial awareness and vestibular development.
Moving heavy logs	Adults/children	Muscle strain, slips, trips, falls, cuts, scratches, abrasions	High	FSL to model safe lifting with bent knees and straight backs Teach the learners a rhyme: “if it takes more than one, it takes two, if it takes more than two, it takes three, if it takes more than three, it’s a tree-let it be”	Medium	Natural material are widely available for the learners to use for a range of craft activities.
Picking of growing leaves and flowers	Adults/children	Stings, bites, cuts, damage to plants	High	FSL to check site prior to the session Encourage the children to only take ‘two caterpillar bites’ Teach the children about the different plants/creatures within the woodland area. Encourage the children to report dangerous plants/creatures	Medium	Learners will be aware of their surroundings giving them the responsibility of maintaining and preserving their Forest School area.

Collection of leaves from the floor	Adults/ children	Animal faeces, sharp objects causing - Slips, trips, falls, cuts, scratches, grazes, abrasions	High	FSL to check site prior to the session Collect and correctly dispose of animal faeces/sharp objects before, during and after the session Adult supervision as deeper leaves are explored Hand washing station available	Medium	Learners will develop their fine/ gross motor skills, strength and coordination.
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	Signature	Date
Forest School leader		
Head Teacher		
Forest School Assistant		