









Riverside Primary Academy



Outdoor Learning And Forest Schools

Project Work, Ongoing Maintenance, Building Key Skills and Woodland Trips

(Large Project Work - Forest School Area and Fire Pit , Recycled Green House and Container)

	Topic 1		Topic 2	Topic 3	Topic 4	Topic 5	Topic 6
	Sept - Oct	Christmas Crafts	Oct - Dec	Jan - Feb	Feb - Mar	April - May	Jun - July
Container and Recycled Greenhouse	Container storage and Recycled greenhouse projects.	Reception - stick Santa	Container storage and Recycled greenhouse projects.				
Forest School Area Fence	Priority Fence for Forest School area	Year 1 - Reindeer Faces with clay and sticks	Priority Fence for Forest School area	Priority Fence for Forest School area	Priority Aim to complete for Easter - Fence for Forest School area		
Wildlife Garden	Wildlife garden maintenance and development is ongoing throughout the year.	Year 2 -snowman faces decorations / African Jewellery	Wild life garden maintenance and development is ongoing throughout the year.				
Composting	Composting - leaves New composting systems and routines to be set up.	Year 3 - tree decoration owls	Composting - leaves New composting systems and routines to be set up and in place by end of Autumn term.			Composting - cut grass	Composting - cut grass
Bee and Butterfly Garden	Bee and Butterfly Garden - maintenance and development thought-out the year.	Year 4 - Christmas tree decoration	Bee and Butterfly Garden - maintenance and development thought-out the year. Community gardening team.				
Reflective Garden	Reflective Garden Project - to create Dens within the exiting planting of the Reflective garden.	Year 5 - Pebble Art			Reflective Garden Project - to create Dens within the exiting planting of the Reflective garden.		
Large EYFS Planter	EYFS staff to utilise as appropriate - growing and looking after plants and vegetables	Year 6 - Christmas frame and portrait	EYFS staff to utilise as appropriate - growing and looking after plants and vegetables				
Woodland Trip	Year 6 		Year 4 	Year 3 	Year 2 	Year 2 \ Year 1 	Year 5 





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Outdoor Learning And Forest Schools EYFS

Year group Subject	Topic 1	Topic 2	Topic 3	Topic 4	Topic 5	Topic 6
EYFS	<p><u>Outdoor Learning:</u> Provision throughout the curriculum is mirrored indoor and outdoor. Opportunities for counting, number recognition, reading and writing are made available outside. Sand and water will always be available as well as gross motor activities including bikes and soft play. Activities such as role play, creative equipment will be led by the pupils own interests.</p>					
	<p><u>Forest Schools:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to play and follow rules and instructions • Safety and using tools • Sorting natural materials • Cones • Conkers • Leaves • Shapes found in the environment • Sorting sticks and stones • Nature art • Leaf printing • Bark rubbing • Shapes to make woodland creatures 	<p><u>Forest Schools:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to play and follow rules and instructions • Make calendar by using rubbings • Ordering and sorting natural materials • Developing number work • Sounds in the environment • Phonics and initial sounds 	<p><u>Forest Schools:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to play and follow rules and instructions • Making boats from recycled materials • Investigation different natural materials and their properties • Ordering and sorting natural materials by size 	<p><u>Forest Schools:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to play and follow rules and instructions • Animal sounds • Sorting, matching and ordering • Being nature detectives - can we identify the season? • Looking for tadpoles and wildlife • Looking for evidence of spring flowers 	<p><u>Forest Schools:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to play and follow rules and instructions • Telling stories in different outdoor environments independently or as a class • Keeping safe and using tools for planting and growing • Scattering wildlife seeds • Introduction to knots 	<p><u>Forest Schools:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to play and follow rules and instructions • Telling stories in different outdoor environments independently or as a class • Caring for (watering and feeding) our plants and outdoor areas • Introduction to knots
<p><u>Seasonal Changes</u> to be discussed / questioned / talked about with pupils regularly during outdoor and forest school sessions. What is the Weather like today? Which season is it? How can we be prepared for weather like this? How does this weather make us feel?</p>						
<p><u>Physical Health and Well -Being Link - Physical Health and Fitness</u> The characteristics and mental and physical benefits of an active lifestyle. The importance of building regular exercise into daily and weekly routines and how to achieve this; for example walking or cycling to school, a daily active mile or other forms of regular, vigorous exercise. The risks associated with an inactive lifestyle (including obesity).</p>						



Outdoor Learning and Forest Schools Curriculum Overview - Key Stage One

Year group Subject	Topic 1	Topic 2	Topic 3	Topic 4	Topic 5	Topic 6
Year 1 	<p><u>Outdoor Learning:</u> Investing the local area and identifying old and new features of our community. Transition work considering pupil have only just left reception providing indoor / outdoor provision for those pupils on Early Learning Goals.</p> <p><u>Forest School:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art attack portraits • Investigate our school's outdoor environment • Healthy eating - what comes from the earth? • Which foods are processed? 	<p><u>Outdoor Learning:</u> Link physical exercise with science - pushes and pulls eg. Pupils using bikes, speeding up, slowing down, changing directions pushing and pulling. Use soft play area.</p> <p><u>Forest School:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using tools • Introduction to knots • Direction games. 	<p><u>Outdoor Learning :</u> Identify different styles of buildings in the local area, homes, offices, shops, industrial estates etc. Visit community garden - how can we improve the garden?</p> <p><u>Forest School:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building dens and structures using natural materials • Sustainability linked with improvement of our environment. 	<p><u>Outdoor learning:</u> opportunities will be utilised if appropriate to the learning. Also see collapsed week planning.</p> <p><u>Forest School:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superhero games • Trash monster recycling - thinking game • Superhero assault course with natural materials. 	<p><u>Outdoor Learning:</u> Grow plants and flowers in the bee and butterfly garden / classroom garden links to science.</p> <p><u>Forest School:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor camping experiences with fire pit. • Growing peppers from seeds • Outdoor musical instruments - wind chimes using natural materials • Following routes on maps of the local area and parks. • Orienteering <div data-bbox="1592 1062 1787 1142" style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">  WOODLAND TRIP </div>	<p><u>Outdoor Learning:</u> Fieldwork, observations and recording information at the seaside. Evidence of animals and their habitats.</p> <p><u>Forest school:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pond life and pond habitat - compare and contrast between sea life and pond life. • Looking after our environment making decisions of what is right and wrong.- pollutions, litter etc.
	<p><u>Seasonal changes</u> to be discussed / questioned / talked about with pupils regularly during outdoor and forest school sessions. What is the Weather like today? Which season is it? How can we be prepared for weather like this? How does this weather make us feel?</p> <div style="border: 1px solid orange; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px; background-color: #fff9e6;"> <p><u>Physical Health and Well -Being Link - Physical Health and Fitness</u> The characteristics and mental and physical benefits of an active lifestyle. The importance of building regular exercise into daily and weekly routines and how to achieve this; for example walking or cycling to school, a daily active mile or other forms of regular, vigorous exercise. The risks associated with an inactive lifestyle (including obesity).</p> </div>					

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Year 2 	<p><u>Outdoor Learning:</u> Simple orienteering activity - to promote directional language and position during visit to Saltwell Park and use of the maze.</p> <p><u>Forest School:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructional and direction games moving with peers 	<p><u>Outdoor Learning:</u> Orienteering activity - to promote directional language and position building upon the skills from previous topic.</p> <p><u>Forest School:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using materials and tools Comparisons between natural materials and their properties. Recording information in a chart Composting 	<p><u>Outdoor Learning:</u> Outdoor representation of the GFL. Demonstrate how fire travels and is blocked.</p> <p><u>Forest School:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire pit rules and safety Cooking food Hygiene for outdoor cooking 	<p><u>Outdoor Learning:</u> To observe weather and seasonal changes.</p> <p><u>Forest School:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cooking on the fire pit Healthy eating and balanced diet Food sources - where does food come from? How is it prepared and how is it eaten? Poachers game focusing upon minibeast hunt and stream habitat 	<p><u>Outdoor Learning:</u> Visit the Wildlife garden and investigate habitats and food chains. Pond, mini-beast hotel, bog area etc. visit off site habitats to compare.</p> <p><u>Forest School:</u></p> <div data-bbox="1556 654 1747 734" style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">  WOODLAND TRIP </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare finding from the woodland trip to mini beasts and habitats we have in our school grounds. 	<p><u>Outdoor Learning:</u> Field work- identify plants and trees in the local community.</p> <p><u>Forest School:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food sources from other parts of the world timeline Building bridges with natural materials Evaluating structures for their effectiveness
<p>Seasonal Changes to be discussed / questioned / talked about with pupils regularly during outdoor and forest school sessions. What is the Weather like today? Which season is it? How can we be prepared for weather like this? How does this weather make us feel?</p>						
<p>Physical Health and Well -Being Link - Physical Health and Fitness The characteristics and mental and physical benefits of an active lifestyle. The importance of building regular exercise into daily and weekly routines and how to achieve this; for example walking or cycling to school, a daily active mile or other forms of regular, vigorous exercise. The risks associated with an inactive lifestyle (including obesity).</p>						



Outdoor Learning and Forest Schools Curriculum Overview - Lower Key Stage Two

Year group Subject	Topic 1	Topic 2	Topic 3	Topic 4	Topic 5	Topic 6
Year 3 	<p><u>Outdoor Learning:</u> Visit our local world heritage site - Dunston Staiths and Derwent Walk to identify old railway lines. Encourage hedgehogs to make their home in our wildlife garden or school grounds. Safety in the garden and school grounds links with PSHE</p> <p><u>Forest School:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make a hedgehog home • Harvest seeds from flowers 	<p><u>Outdoor Learning:</u> Collection of rocks and soils from in and around the school grounds. Classify the types of rocks we find.</p> <p><u>Forest School:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making charcoal • Charcoal drawings • Cooking on the fire pit • Investigating man-made and natural materials in the school grounds • Different types of rocks • Erosions 	<p><u>Outdoor Learning:</u></p> <p><u>Forest School:</u></p> <p>Food pyramid - sorting foods in to groups and categories</p> 	<p><u>Outdoor Learning:</u> Outdoor learning opportunities will be utilised if appropriate to the learning. Also see collapsed week planning.</p> <p><u>Forest School:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making ancient Greek weapon and shields • Using tools 	<p><u>Outdoor Learning:</u> River Wear walk in Durham. Photograph landmarks in Durham and Dunston. Investigate shadows at different times throughout the day.</p> <p><u>Forest School:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making ancient Greek weapon and shields • Using tools 	<p><u>Outdoor Learning:</u> Use outdoor / natural materials to build a class Iron Man. Testing thermal insulators outside.</p> <p><u>Forest School:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collecting natural materials • Planning,, building and evaluating a version of the Iron Man with natural materials • Team work

Physical Health and Well -Being Link - Physical Health and Fitness

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Outdoor Learning and Forest Schools Curriculum Overview - Lower Key Stage Two

Year group Subject	Topic 1	Topic 2	Topic 3	Topic 4	Topic 5	Topic 6
Year 4 	<p><u>Outdoor Learning:</u> Role plays using the outdoor stage for PSHE and RE. Outdoor learning opportunities will be utilised if appropriate to the learning. Also see collapsed week planning.</p> <p><u>Forest School:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mosaics with natural materials or recyclable materials Sustainability Empathy for our environment Weaving with natural materials 	<p><u>Outdoor Learning:</u> Using outdoor areas to promote friendship - why is it important? How does it help us spend time with friends? Using the reflective garden. Team building / problem solving activities.</p> <p>British Values Link Mutual Respect</p> <p><u>Forest School:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Composting Night line activity Teamwork and friendship Designing, building and evaluating dens in the reflective garden <p></p>	<p><u>Outdoor Learning:</u> Early spring planting in the Wildlife garden or Bee and butterfly beds. Conditions for growing - what are conditions like after natural disasters.</p> <p><u>Forest School:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water cycle water butts water conservation Sustainability with links to climate change and natural disasters. Rain / storm sounds using body parts - links to music 	<p><u>Outdoor Learning:</u> Outdoor teambuilding and problem solving activities. Building upon the skills from previous topics.</p> <p>British Values Link Mutual Respect</p> <p><u>Forest School:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Team building games 	<p><u>Outdoor Learning:</u> Use the outdoor environment as the setting for making a movie - links with Computing.</p> <p><u>Forest School:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Making fencing to keep animals safe Grouping and sorting living things. 	<p><u>Outdoor Learning:</u> Outdoor learning opportunities will be utilised if appropriate to the learning. Also see collapsed week planning.</p> <p><u>Forest School:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Debate GM crops and use of technology within farming and woodlands and forests. Outdoor scrabble

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Outdoor Learning and Forest Schools Curriculum Overview - Upper Key Stage Two

Year group Subject	Topic 1	Topic 2	Topic 3	Topic 4	Topic 5	Topic 6
<p>Year 5</p> <p>Safeguarding</p> <p>Forest School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps of Dunston Riverside past and present - changes over time • Tudor portraits • Orienteering <p>Art and DT Link</p>	<p>Outdoor Learning: Cycling proficiency</p> <p>Forest School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps of Dunston Riverside past and present - changes over time • Tudor portraits • Orienteering 	<p>Outdoor Learning: Wellbeing walk in local outdoor spaces. (gibside)</p> <p>Forest School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water harvesting - collecting rain water around the school in water butts. • Dream catchers - creativity • Ice art • Using tools • orienteering 	<p>Outdoor Learning: Pupils research and investigate suitable contributions to make to our outside reading space. Record water levels each day.</p> <p>Forest School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can we create a rainforest feel within our outdoor reading area? • Are there any plants which would be suitable and would grow in our climate? • How can we create layers or a mini ecosystem? • Making rain / storm sounds with body parts - links to music • Water collection 	<p>Outdoor Learning: Life Cycles - growing vegetables in the planning beds. Re-enactment of the Easter story using the outdoor stage.</p> <p>Forest School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using tools and natural materials • Making wands • Potions • Planting 	<p>Outdoor Learning: Victorian vegetable garden - use the school planting bed to learn about vegetable growth and self-sufficiency.</p> <p>Forest School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit Gibside National Trust Walled garden • Harvest and use crops to cook in Victorian style 	<p>Outdoor Learning: Victorian vegetable garden - use the school to learn about vegetable growth and self-sufficiency.</p> <p>Forest School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harvest and use crops to cook in Victorian style • Stream walk <p>WOODLAND TRIP</p> 

Physical Health and Well -Being Link - Physical Health and Fitness

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Outdoor Learning and Forest Schools Curriculum Overview - Upper Key Stage Two

Year group Subject	Topic 1	Topic 2	Topic 3	Topic 4	Topic 5	Topic 6
<p>Year 6</p> <p>Safeguarding</p> <p>Forest School:</p> <p>WOODLAND TRIP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steam walk • Orienteering • Food chains <p>Art and DT Link</p>	<p>Outdoor Learning: Robin Wood outdoor activity centre or local adventure playground. Walk to Watergate park compare with our wildlife garden in school - investigate food chains and habitats. Cycling Proficiency.</p> <p>Safeguarding</p> <p>Forest School:</p> <p>WOODLAND TRIP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steam walk • Orienteering • Food chains 	<p>Outdoor Learning: Reflective garden - how can we improve and develop it to promote good well being. What would we like the garden to look like in the summer.</p> <p>Forest School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Den making • Maintenance of key forest school areas 	<p>Outdoor Learning: Dig for Victory. Maintenance and looking after (feeding, watering) crops.</p> <p>Forest School:</p> <p>Women's' land army Addressing stereotypes</p>	<p>Outdoor Learning: Dig for Victory continued. Maintenance and looking after (feeding, watering) crops.</p> <p>Fieldwork - record the evacuation journey and note feelings and emotions as the evacuation takes place.</p> <p>Forest School: Planting and looking after crops and flower beds.</p>	<p>Outdoor Learning: University Visit - Raising Aspirations Partnership Local company careers visit</p> <p>Forest School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gardeners for the day - what is the role of a gardener - career in in the outdoors • School environment and how to look after it • Sustainability • Making difference as a citizen of our community 	<p>Outdoor Learning: Outdoor learning opportunities will be utilised if appropriate to the learning. Also see collapsed week planning. Walk to watergate park and compare with Autumn term walk.</p> <p>Forest School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team building • Friendship games • Transition games with peers (but not with best friends) • Lavender scones.
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