

We offer a range of educational opportunities linked to the national curriculum and led by qualified practitioners focussing on play and experiential learning to provide engaging, impactful sessions for primary school students. Our five themed sessions can be adapted to meet the requirements of your group and we're happy to mix-and-match activities from different sessions. Use the matrix to see the curriculum links for each session.

(PL) Practitioner-led activity (SL) Self-led activity

Super Worms

Dig deep into the world of worms in this session inspired by Julia Donaldson's "Superworm"

Sit round the fire to read "Superworm" together and discuss the environmental impacts of composting (PL)

Create a class wormery—pupils work together using a step-by-step guide to create their own class wormery which can be taken back to the classroom and monitored weekly (SL)

Play "What Will the Worm Eat" game, learn mind-blowing worm facts, and maybe even conduct some Charles Darwin inspired experiments (PL)

Wild Science

Discover the strong links between science and the untamed natural world

Sensory scavenger hunt—pupils pair up and use all five senses to explore our space, journal their findings, and share their sensory discoveries (SL)

Create paints and dyes from natural materials to produce a piece of art inspired by the garden (PL)

Observe and discuss the signs of the current season, then draw a seasonal key poster using seasonal association (SL)

The Plants Are Aliens!

Take a closer look at the "alien" world of plants and trees—how they communicate, share nutrients, and even battle each other to survive

Investigate the life cycles of plants using games and pictures (SL)

Read extracts from "A Tree Full of Wonder" together, discuss the "wood wide web" and how trees secretly communicate with each other, consider the benefits of trees, and discover how we as humans have tree-like qualities (PL)

Learn about the most bizarre and unusual plants from around the world, how they've adapted to grow and thrive, and explore the garden to complete a bizarre plant checklist (SL)

Back to Basics Bushcraft

Students can build their own mini communities whilst Exploring their surroundings

Split into teams (houses) to design and create a unique "coat of arms" on cotton headbands using the leaf bashing printing technique (PL)

Shelter building challenge—pupils work together to build their own shelters using either tarps and cord or natural materials (PL)

Explore the garden and match tree species to a simple classification key (SL)

Campfire cooking—bring a snack or some marshmallows to roast over a fire and enjoy together (PL)

Minibeasts

Spot common creepy-crawlies whilst roaming around the garden

Use magnifying glasses and pots to find, collect, and observe invertebrates that live in different habitats such as our woodland and pond (PL)

Complete a minibeast hunt checklist and learn fun-facts about the tiny creatures all around us (SL)

Discuss the lifecycles of our minibeasts, take part in a lifecycles game, and even have a go at replicating their habitats using clay models (PL)

Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum Links

Super Worms Wild Science Alien Plants Bush Craft Mini Beasts

Exploring and engagement

Seeking challenges and taking risks ◦ Being curious about the natural world
Using the five senses ◦ Engaging in open-ended activities

Thinking critically

Creating links between ideas ◦ Discovering new ways to do things
Recalling information whilst learning something new
Developing strategies for doing things ◦ Being inventive

Communication and language development

Listening ◦ Following instructions ◦ Developing explanations by connecting ideas
Reading stories and learning new vocabulary

Physical development

Using tools and equipment ◦ Negotiating space safely
Developing fine and gross motor skills ◦ Moving confidently in a range of ways
and developing coordination

Personal, social, and emotional development

Working in a group ◦ Choosing resources ◦ Engaging in new activities
Expressing sensitivity and empathy ◦ Building confidence

Understanding the world

Similarities and differences in relation to place and living things
Discussing features of the immediate environment ◦ Noticing changes
Making observations of plants and animals

Expressive arts and design

Singing songs ◦ Using a variety of materials and tools ◦ Representing ideas through
art, music, design, technology, dance, role play, and stories

Working scientifically

Asking and answering questions ◦ Using equipment ◦ Gathering data ◦ Conducting
experiments ◦ Testing through trial and error ◦ Classifying ◦ Making observations

Exploring and investigating the local environment

Recognising and naming common local plants and animals ◦ Exploring nature and
wildlife within the community ◦ Wayfaring local woodland