



NEWSLETTER



NEST DISCOVERY



A few of our Y1 learners found a nest fallen from the hedge during playtime. It's a curious creation made mostly of moss, a few sticks and lined with feathers. It belongs, we believe, to the Long-Tailed Tit. It's been returned to the hedge, hopefully with new residents soon!

MUD BIRD FEEDERS

This term as part of our longer summer sessions we made some bird feeders. We've made them before, but this time around we used mud as our binder instead of fat. We left a couple out and they were picked clean.

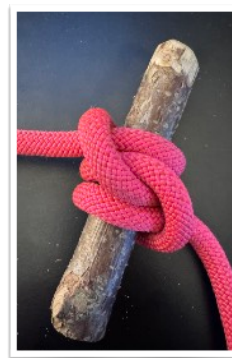


Success! Learners also got to make their own and try them out at home. Bird heaven.



EXPLICIT TEACHING AND INTRINSIC MOTIVATION

During our school sessions we always offer Knot Knowledge as part of our learning. We deliver this learning through an explicit teaching model (basically: I do, we do, you do). This provides learners with a concrete demonstration of how to do it. We then provide scaffolded support as they practice. Finally, they have space to independently practice and consolidate their skills. Some are even able to provide peer supported learning as they master the knots. This year we are focusing on the clove hitch and half hitch.



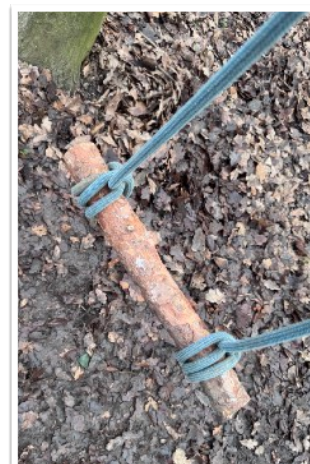
While the motivation at this point pretty much comes from the teacher, it is extrinsic motivation (i.e. do this; have a go at this).

Where I get really excited, and where this levels up, is when learners take this new knowledge and bring it into their play. Their motivation has changed now in this moment, it has become intrinsic. The motivation for the action and outcome has come from within them, for whatever that reason is. In this case, it's making a rope swing using their newly acquired Knot Knowledge. They are able to, for their own enjoyment, use explicitly taught skills and knowledge and confidently apply it to their own chosen activity for play. This is gold!

We have seen this specifically with the Year 3 cohort who supercharged their learning.

Our teaching process has also evolved taking on board learner suggestions and trying to make learning as accessible as possible.

Finally, they are embedding deep learning through their play and this knowledge will serve them for many years to come!





FLICKY STICKS

A new game came to us at Forest School recently. The game is Flicky Sticks. This involves using two similarly decorated sticks with a pointy end and two lengths of rope. You have to travel between point A and point B flicking the sticks into the ground. Once the first one is stuck, you have to throw the second past it and stick it too. You continue travelling end over end until reaching the finish line. It's become a firm favourite and we'll look forward to many competitive games across the summer term.



QUOTE CORNER

'Almost all creativity involves purposeful play.'
Fred Donaldson



WHERE GOOD THINGS GROW

FOREST CLUB HAPPENINGS

Here's a selection of images from this last term of Forest Club...

A huge thank you to Lostock's PTA for buying some new dirt to refill our digging area. The children have loved it! Before and after photos...



Blackbeard's Treasure about to be freed from its icy prison.



← Summer slackline walking avoiding the wobble

Hapa Zome (leaf dye) bunting made by learners →



Tealight Lanterns. Water frozen in the tin helps to keep the shape while punching holes. We then added a wire handle and spray painted the tins. Awesome!



A cracking good time splitting kindling with our new splitter at Lostock Hall →

← Great kindling ensures a great fire is going in no time

