Outdoor Learning: Winter

Science

- Idea: Mix snow with salt and food dye to create ice sculptures.
- Idea: Fill balloons with water, allow to freeze: Investigate best place to freeze.
- Idea: Find tracks in the snow. Who do they belong to? Where do they live and what do they eat?

History

How do we prepare for winter? Compare with ancestors. Task: Collect and grade wood.

English

Idea: Link to footprints in snow (or mud) children create a mystical character who left them. Create as either 2D picture or 3D model with clay.

Recommended books:
Let's Go Home Little Bear
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

Art & Design

Task: How do our bodies loose heat? How can children choose appropriate clothing to stay warm and dry. Design own.

Mathematics

Idea: Make snow/ mud bricks. 3D shapes, length and width.

Idea: Puddle investigations. Use string to measure circumference/ depth of puddle, compare and link to weather.

Idea: Make a paper boat using sequence of folds to make different shapes.

Geography

- Idea: The route of a rain drop. Catch drops from a cloud. Where does the rain go? Investigate gutters,/ channels. Link to water cycle.
- Idea: Set up weather monitoring station. Collect and present data.
- Idea: Make a rain proof shelter in teams.

Outdoor Learning: Spring

Science

Growing: Build a mini green bean tepee; Create newspaper pots and sow seeds; Plant seasonal snack seeds in grow beds.

Idea: Planting experiment—Plant the runner been seeds in three different locations according to shade. Discover which conditions plant prefers.

Idea: Catch, keep and nurture tadpoles. Record progress to froglets and then release.

History

Idea: Investigate life as a Tudor farm hand. Challenge children to dig. Plough the ground, weed sow with seeds and make a scarecrow.

English

Idea:

Recommended books:
And then it's Spring
Seeds, seed, seeds!
Seeds Sprout
The Tiny Seed
First the Egg

Art & Design

Idea: Colour spy record. Challenge the children to colour match the colours of spring. Chart from pale yellow primulas, bright yellow daffodils, purple blue of blue bells and deep pink of campian.

Idea: Make petal pictures. Using petals, arrange to make image on piece of cotton. Fold cotton over and bash with rolling pin.

Mathematics

Idea: Mark a bud by putting electrical tape around it's twig. Measure it's growth.

Geography

Idea: Wind play—use fabric, ribbons, wind catchers, windmills and kites.

Idea: Make and install wind chimes and windsocks.

Outdoor Learning: Autumn

Science

- Idea: Go on a seed hunt.
- Extension: Plot a lifecycle of a tree. Crete a picture from natural materials to demonstrate.
- Idea: Collect as many seeds as possible, investigate dispersal techniques.

English

- Idea: Laurel leaf writing. Collect yellow leaves. Using small stick, write descriptive words on leaf. Place between hands (warmth) and discover 'magic writing'.
- Recommended books:
  Leaf Trouble
  Harvest Moon
  Leaf Man
  Harvest

Geography

- Idea: Take digital photos of features in the grounds. Print off with a map. Children find location and record on map.
- Idea: Take rubbings of different surfaces. Children create own map or surfaces trail.

Mathematics

- Idea: Collect as many different types of tree seed as possible. Measure, compare and record floating distances.
- Idea: Use leaves to represent numbers and create leaf sums e.g. Sycamore 5 points, Ash 13 points, Fig 3 points

Art & Design

- Idea: Link to Pip Squirrel story, challenge children to collect as many different colour leaves and arrange into 'sunset' picture on ground
- Idea: Collect variety of leaves and record by making leaf rubbings. Try using kitchen foil. Cut out leaf shape.

History

- Use work of William Morris as stimulus. Make leaf rubbings onto cloth using oil pastels.