



WEEK 5: STICKS

NATURE WALK

Get outside and see how many different sticks you can collect. You could even have a game of Pooh Sticks

RECIPES TO TRY

Work as a team to collect sticks to make a camp fire. then enjoy some smores or marshmallows together with a mug of hot chocolate.



Garden Jobs

Plant bulbs. Anything from snowdrops to hyacinths and garlic can be planted during October..

Provision

Build a den

Paint your sticks white and wait for them to dry. Then add some coloured spots on these and display in a vase.
Bundle your sticks into piles of 10 and practice counting in groups of 10.

See what shapes you can create with your sticks on the ground.

Create a stick centre in your provision with wooden pegs, sticks, lolly pop sticks, craft sticks and dolly pegs. These make fantastic loose parts!

Wrap some bands around your sticks and attach the things you collect to it.

Make a magical wand with your stick

Add some sticks to your woodland kitchen area and see how the children use their imagination.

Add some sticks to your playdough/ clay area to create some sculptures

Collect

Develop a collection of different coloured leaves and types. Make your own leaf spotter chart to help others.

Book Ideas

Stick Man by Julia Donaldson

Stanley's Stick by Neal Layton

The Stick Book: Loads of things you can make or do with a stick
(Going Wild) by Fiona Danks
Not A Stick by Antoinette Portis



WEEK 5: MATHS CENTRE

Little children love to explore leaves, stick, petals, shells and even slugs and snails... much to our delight! These natural fascinations invite us to discreetly support and teach mathematical ideas and concepts through our careful interactions. The photo above shows a child exploring a bag of shells she had collected on a recent visit to the sea side. She spent large amounts of focussed time counting the shells, lining them up and exploring the patterns, ordering them by size and even adding them to the balance

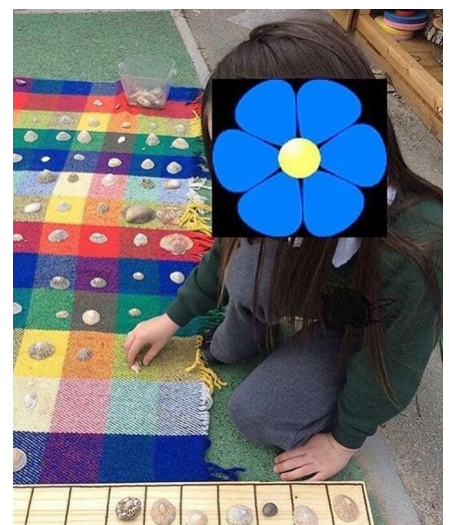
scales to compare weight. On discovery of the picnic blanket outside and with the support of the practitioner she made a link between the 100 squares she had seen inside and creating her own. She later on to use a blank number line and used her knowledge of counting in 5's and 10's to assign a shell to each number. The observations and learning going on here were a practitioners dream and no pre planned activity would have sustained such a high level of involvement and wellbeing. This fantastic exploration of natural Maths could only happen in a setting that;

1. Values the importance of child initiated learning.
2. Planned the day to allow for large amounts of uninterrupted child led learning.
3. Practitioners have a strong subject knowledge of how to support learning and move it onto the next step.
4. Resourced and organised the outdoor provision with open ended natural resources.

Resources that are necessary to ensure high quality maths learning;

- Blank wooden number lines
- Wooden number lines with numbers on
- Bamboo sorting trays
- Blank grids (picnic blankets, google images of grids, garden trellis)
- Weighing scales
- Balance scales
- Wooden numerals
- Natural objects; stones, shells, pine cones, leaves, acorns...
- Number books
- Mark making tools and paper freely accessible to invite children to record their thinking down.

These resources were all organised and labelled in an outdoor shed that could be opened and made accessible to all children as part of their continuous outdoor provision.





WEEK 5: NATURAL BRUSHES

Have a go at making some natural paint brushes. Collect some sticks and then tape some different materials to the end of your stick and have a go at painting.

We love grasses, feathers, moss, flower petals... what will you try?

