

ACTIVITY/ TOOL	Benefit Assessment	Possible hazards	Preliminary Risk Assessment (Consequence/Likelihood)	Measures in Place/ Additional Measures	Risk with measures in place	Outcome Benefit/ Risk L/M/H
Bow Saw	<p>Learning Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confidence through challenge.</li> <li>• Develop Coordination and strength.</li> <li>• Problem Solving</li> <li>• Social interactions</li> <li>• Connection with nature.</li> <li>• Creative and imaginative play</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cuts to body</li> <li>• Amputation of fingers etc</li> <li>• Blisters on hands</li> </ul>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rules and procedures for using tools –</li> <li>• Designated tool use area</li> <li>• Forest School Leader to supervise tool area at all times when a child is using tools</li> <li>• Reminder of rules and procedures at the start of every Forest School session</li> <li>• Counting of tools at conclusion of every session – check off and sign tools back in</li> <li>• Bow Saws to be used with a partner</li> <li>• Gloves to be worn on hand NOT holding the saw</li> <li>• Saws to be moved around – held close to the body with blade facing towards to back</li> <li>• Cover to be on when moving saw and as soon as not in use</li> </ul>	Low	Low-Benefits outweigh risk

<p><b>Pen Knives / Peelers</b></p>	<p>Learning Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring their local natural environment</li> <li>• Confidence through challenge.</li> <li>• Develop Coordination and strength.</li> <li>• Problem Solving</li> <li>• Social interactions</li> <li>• Connection with nature.</li> <li>• Open ended, creative and imaginative thinking and play.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cuts to body</li> <li>• Amputation of fingers etc</li> </ul>	<p>High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rules and procedures for using tools –</li> <li>• Designated tool use area</li> <li>• Forest School Leader to supervise tool area at all times when a child is using tools</li> <li>• Reminder of rules and procedures at the start of every Forest School session</li> <li>• Counting of tools at conclusion of every session – check off and sign tools back in</li> <li>• Pen knife rules – sitting down with hands on knees</li> <li>• Cut away from your body</li> <li>• Always secure lock on pen knife when not in use</li> <li>• Return to locked box immediately when not in use</li> </ul> <p><b>Refer to Use of Tools guides in tool box</b></p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Low-Benefits outweigh risk</p>
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<b>Fires Starters</b>	<p>Learning Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confidence through challenge.</li> <li>• Develop Coordination and strength.</li> <li>• Problem Solving</li> <li>• Social interactions</li> <li>• Connection with nature.</li> <li>• Creative and imaginative play.</li> <li>• Multi-sensory development.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fire starting when and where not intended</li> <li>• Damage to environment as well as injury to people and wildlife</li> </ul>	<p>High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rules and procedures for using tools –</li> <li>• Designated tool use area</li> <li>• Forest School Leader to supervise tool area at all times when a child is using tools</li> <li>• Reminder of rules and procedures at the start of every Forest School session</li> <li>• Counting of tools at conclusion of every session – check off and sign tools back in</li> <li>• Fire starters used under strict supervision of Forest School Leader</li> <li>• Only used in fire starting sessions</li> </ul> <p><b>Refer to Use of Tools guides in tool box</b></p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Low-Benefits outweigh risk</p>

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Climbing Trees	<p>Learning Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confidence through challenge.</li> <li>• Develop Coordination and strength.</li> <li>• Problem Solving</li> <li>• Social interactions</li> <li>• Connection with nature.</li> <li>• Creative and imaginative play.</li> </ul>	Fall from tree: fracture, break, bruising, cuts, head injury	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install soft fall (bark chips) under the tree to a depth of 300mm under the climbing limbs or position impact absorbing mats on the fall zone.</li> <li>• Identify tree climbing limbs with green tape</li> <li>• Develop risk assessment plan with children – rules of climbing.</li> <li>• Ensure spaces under climbing trees are kept clear or any loose parts or objects other than soft fall.</li> </ul>	Low	Low- Benefits outweigh risk

ACTIVITY	Benefit Assessment	Possible hazards	Preliminary Risk Assessment (Consequence/Likelihood)	Measures in Place/ Additional Measures	Risk with measures in place	Outcome Benefit/ Risk L/M/H
Using natural 'loose parts' resources – Sticks, Stones, branches, cones, shells, seeds, pods, clay	Learning Outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring objects from their local natural environment</li> <li>• Confidence through challenge.</li> <li>• Develop Coordination and strength.</li> <li>• Problem Solving</li> <li>• Social interactions</li> <li>• Connection with nature.</li> <li>• Open ended, creative and imaginative thinking and play.</li> </ul>	Injury from natural object e.g. large stick through misuse.	Moderate	Teach and remind children of how to move around carrying and how to use loose parts safely. If necessary, promote the rule of no holding sticks above their 'tummy height'.	Low	Low-Benefits outweigh risk
		Object causing injury to eye	Moderate	When walking through more wild bush environment, remind children to be aware of not allowing branches to swing back at others behind them. Teach and remind children of how to move around carrying and how to use loose parts safely. If necessary, promote the rule of no holding sticks above their 'tummy height'.	Low	Low-Benefits outweigh risk
		Child falling on to uneven object(s)	Moderate	Ensure spaces under climbing trees/ equipment of height are kept clear of loose part objects.  In small spaces with many loose parts encourage children to look carefully and not to run.	Low	Low-Benefits outweigh risk

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<b>Using natural 'loose parts' resources</b>	Learning Outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confidence through challenge.</li> <li>• Develop Coordination and strength.</li> <li>• Problem Solving</li> <li>• Social interactions</li> <li>• Connection with nature.</li> </ul>	Child built structure falling on a child(ren).	Moderate	Ensure there is adequate adult supervision from an appropriate (non-disruptive) distance. Provide children with structure building sticks that are appropriate for their height and size.	Low	Low-Benefits outweigh risk
		Heavy object dropped onto foot or causing lifting injury.	Low	When lifting heavier objects e.g. logs, teach children to always find a friend(s) to help with the lift and encourage them to roll heavy object away from them.	Low	Low-Benefits outweigh risk
		Splinters	Moderate	Conduct a preliminary and regular check of loose part resources to ensure wood with clear splinter risks exposed are removed or sanded down.	Low	Low-Benefits outweigh risk
		A bite from wildlife inhabiting inside/under loose parts resources.	Moderate	In the warmer month particularly, it may be necessary to take down structures and put away larger piles of resources at the end of each day. Teach children how to cautiously look and check for any dangerous wildlife. Conduct a safety sweep of loose parts before each session.	Low	Low-Benefits outweigh risk

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open ended, creative and imaginative thinking and play.</li> </ul>	Child ingesting small loose part/ clay	Moderate	Teach children the rule of 'No lick, no Pick', which means nothing at Forest School must go in my mouth and I should leave wildlife as I found it (unless picking a certain plant is part of a directed task).	Low	Low-Benefits outweigh risk

<p><b>Exploring shallow water in the Creek</b></p> <p>Water laying around after a storm</p>	<p>Learning Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allows close access to the contents of the creek and is an essential component of exploring this habitat.</li> <li>• Confidence through challenge.</li> <li>• Develop Coordination and strength.</li> <li>• Problem Solving</li> <li>• Social interactions</li> <li>• Connection with nature.</li> <li>• Creative and imaginative play.</li> <li>• Multi-sensory development.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slips, trips and falls causing cuts, grazes, sprains/ breaks.</li> <li>• Drowning.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Safety sweep of area to identify any water (check depth after storm)</li> <li>-Point out hazard to educators and children</li> <li>-Wear appropriate clothing if necessary</li> <li>-Ensure an educator is supervising identified hazard</li> </ul>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Low Benefits Outweigh risk</p>
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Exploring wild/bush area,	<p>Learning Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring their local natural environment</li> <li>• Confidence through challenge.</li> <li>• Develop Coordination and strength.</li> <li>• Problem Solving</li> <li>• Social interactions</li> <li>• Connection with nature.</li> <li>• Open ended, creative and imaginative thinking and play.</li> </ul>	Trips, grazes,	Moderate	Safety sweep to identify any hazards Children do their own safety sweep and highlight any hazards Identify and alert these to all participating	Low	Low-Benefits outweigh risk
		Ticks,	High	Alert children and families Insect repellent to be used Information for families Self checks when back at service	Moderate	Moderate - Benefits outweigh risk
		Branches in eye,	High	Safety sweep Remove and isolate any issues Rules for using sticks Ensure everyone is reminded of rules and consequences	Low	Low-Benefits outweigh risk
		Snake bites/ spider bites,	High	Safety sweep Snake bite action plan Educate children and practice snake bite procedure - rehearse	Low	Low-Benefits outweigh risk
		Branches falling	High	Safety sweep Identify and isolate any suspicious branches or areas	Low	Low-Benefits outweigh risk