



HAWRIDGE & CHOLESBURY CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL



**Bright Bug  
Forest School**

BUILDING RESILIENT, CONFIDENT AND  
INDEPENDENT LEARNERS

Our **Hawridge & Cholesbury** curriculum provides opportunities for our children to be;

**F**ascinated

**R**ounded

**E**ager to make a difference

**S**piritual

**H**old high aspirations



Learning through nature

## Forest School Curriculum

Activity	Reception	Year 1 and 2	Year 3 and 4	Year 5 and 6
Scavenging	Collect at least 3 different natural objects safely and by sorting colour.	Collect at least 3 different natural objects safely and identify their generic name e.g. leaf. Extend by sorting.	Collect at least 5 different natural objects safely and identify using a chart to support. Extend by sorting.	Collect at least 10 different natural objects safely and identify using a chart to support. Extend by sorting.
<u>Working with willow, hazel or dogwood</u>	Strip a branch of willow by pulling the leaves downwards.	Bend a length of willow into a circle and weave into itself to secure.	Using the circle from previous stage, add another willow length and weave into the circle to create a wreath.	Use willow to create a more complex shape through weaving. E.g. heart or fish
Using a mallet	Mallet one stick into the ground with support.  Talk about how to use a mallet safely to bash one leaf on fabric.	Mallet one stick into the ground.  Practice using a mallet safely to bash one leaf on fabric.	Mallet 3 sticks into the ground to make a teepee.  Practice using a mallet safely to bash leaves on fabric to make a pattern.	Mallet 4 sticks into the ground and make a den.  Practice using a mallet safely to bash leaves and flowers on fabric to make a pattern.
Using loppers and a saw	Use loppers with support to safely cut thin pieces of branches.	Use loppers to safely cut thin pieces of branch – up to a little finger thickness. Create prickles for a clay hedgehog, make an elder wooden bead by poking out the pith using a tent peg.	Use loppers to safely cut thick pieces of branch – up to a thumb finger thickness. Make a bow and arrow, create beads to make a bracelet.	Use a saw to cut a thick branch. Saw wood and store for campfires or other activities (such as cutting wood cookies).
Using a drill	Practice using a palm drill to widen a pre drilled hole in a soft piece of	Use a palm drill to drill a hole into a wood slice. Decorate the wood slice to make a medallion.	Use a palm drill to drill holes into 3 short lengths of willow and string together to make a decoration.	Use a palm drill to drill several holes into a piece of wood to make a decoration. E.g. Yule log, disc creature etc

Using a hammer	Use a small stubby hammer to tap nails into a log.	Use a small stubby hammer to tap two nails into a piece of wood. Attach an elastic and create a simple slingshot.	Use a small stubby hammer nail 4 wooden discs into a piece of wood. Create a vehicle.	Use a small stubby hammer to secure Holly leaves to a length of pallet wood to create a decoration.
Whittling	Whittle a piece of soft wood such as willow using a peeler with support.	Whittle a piece of soft wood such as willow using a peeler independently.	Whittle a piece of hazel using a bush craft knife into a point.	Whittle a simple straight stick using a bush-craft knife. Extension: whittle a more complex stick with sticking out bits and knots using a bush-craft knife.
Knot tying	Practice folding cord in half. Begin to learn how to tie a cow hitch with support.	Learn to tie a simple hitch Cow Hitch independently. Attach a piece of cord through a hole in a wood cookie.	Learn to tie a Clove Hitch to attach a cord to a peg. Use this when building a shelter.	Learn to tie a Marlin Spike Hitch to attach poles of wood to a rope. Create a rope ladder for a squirrel.
Starting a Fire	Talk about how to stay safe when lighting campfires.	Use a 'flint and steel' to create a spark. Name 3 things needed to start a fire. Talk about how to stay safe when lighting campfires.	Use a 'flint and steel' to create a spark and set fire to a piece of cotton wool. Name 3 things needed to start a fire. Explain 3 ways how to stay safe when lighting campfires.	Learn how to identify and collect tinder. Use a 'flint and steel' to create a spark and set fire to a piece of cotton wool. Explain how to extinguish a fire safely.
Shelter building	Help to gather branches to make a small shelter for a woodland animal. Recognise how to lean branches to help them stand up	Make a two-sided den with branches using the branch of a tree or rope ridgeline between tree with support.	Independently make a two-sided den with branches using the branch of a tree or rope ridgeline between trees.	Bind 3 branches together to make a teepee. Use this as a base for a free-standing den.
Campfire Cooking	Roast a marshmallow safely on a stick with support.	Roast a marshmallow safely on a stick. Use it to make a "smore sandwich"	Make popcorn on the campfire using a popcorn sieve.	Prep and cook damper bread safely on a stick.