



INDOOR WOODLAND ACTIVITY



Looking to create a Nature Corner in your school?

By participating in this activity, students can gain hands on experience, and learn about forests and the diversity of life that exist within. Colours, textures and wildlife change with the seasons, and that character of seasonality can be illustrated in the indoor nature corner.

ACTIVITY TYPE: Art & Craft

AGES: Suitable for all ages

CURRICULUM: Forest Biodiversity, Seasonality, Fine Motor Skills, Creativity, Environmental Awareness (recycling)

MATERIALS: Many different types of materials can be used for this activity, preferably recycled and natural materials, including: cardboard, fabric, chicken wire, Paper-Mache, plastic, rubber, etc. By creating decorations out of recycled material students can learn about the importance of segregating waste and that old and used items can be reused.



Tips and ideas on how to create an Indoor Woodland in your school

Depending on the available space students can create bigger or smaller indoor woodland spaces. The main element may be a Tree that can be standing or attached to the wall, depending on the resources available. To give student's an opportunity to be creative; the tree can be decorated according to season. Moreover, diverse flora and fauna surrounding the tree can be created during art & craft classes or workshops.

EXAMPLE: CARDBOARD TREE

Materials: Cardboard boxes, glue (can be made out of flour and water), scissors, a pencil

Depending on the size of the tree you wish to create, open out one or more cardboard boxes, into a flat sheet of cardboard, if you feel it is too small, you can join a few flat sheets of cardboard together. The cardboard will need to be stiff. You will need two sheets of cardboard of the same size. Draw the shape of a tree on both sheets, the size and shape of the trunk should be same, the branches can be slightly different. Cut out the shapes and assemble. This structure can be pre-painted and decorated; it can also be used as a base for a Paper -Mache tree, to give a rounded shape for the tree trunk, and bigger branches.

VARIATIONS:



DECORATING THE TREE ACCORDING TO THE SEASON

The tree could be painted: e.g. white for silver birch, white-green for beech or brown for oak or willow. As spring is associated with buds and catkins on the trees, these can be made out of crepe paper, fabric or cotton wool.

The forest floor during the spring brings beautiful flowers such as blue bells, wild garlic and many more. During the spring time insects such as bees and flies are waking up, in addition to all year round spiders, woodlice, beetles and earthworms.

These can be added and removed depending on the season!

EXAMPLE: Ballina National School – Indoor Tree

