

RISK BENEFIT ASSESSMENT

Location / Activity:	Pond side and forestry	Date:	September 19 th 2022
Assessor:	Nikita Rees-Jones	Review date:	March 20 th 2022

The boxes in the table below will expand as you type into them; pre-entered text is simply for illustration. You should delete irrelevant items and replace with text relevant to your circumstances.
Your overall risk rating – Low, medium or high – is based on your judgement about whether the BENEFITS of the activity or opportunity outweigh the RISKS.

Experience exploring outdoor space in photograph	How will young people BENEFIT from this activity?	Hazards and risks	Who is at risk?	PRECAUTIONS in place to reduce the risk of injury	Overall risk RATING: L/M/H
Walking near to the pond to explore the lifecycle of the toad	They will be more aware of the rules put in place therefor learn how to follow them. Children become aware of the danger around them and learn how to control their behaviour. Children exploring the living cycle of the toad and its habitat. Children learn to be empathetic and kind and respectful towards living things and creatures, and respectful of their habitat.	Children may go too near the water, potentially falling and gaining injury, or potentially, fall into the water.	The children and the adults.	Practitioners that attend, will place firm rules for the children not to wander the area without an adult, not to go within a certain distance of the water, ensure they continue the walk around the pond with a partner. Practitioners to use cones to corner off an area around the pond for the activity. Adults are to ensure the children are aware of any uneven grounds, to avoid falls.	M

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Children exploring the forestry area, discovering trees, leaves etc.	Children are offered the freedom and time to explore and learn about their surroundings. Children will Use their senses when exploring and discovering the natural materials. Children when outdoors have a sense of enjoyment leading to greater wellbeing. Using fine motor skills when handling or gathering natural materials.	There may be a risk of falling on uneven surfaces such as sticks, when exploring. Some children may get too excited and use sticks inappropriately, such as use sticks as swords and can injury to their peers. There may be plants that are irritable such as needles or thorns that may come in contact with. Children may wander too far and get lost Children may discover dangerous materials such as glass during their exploring and handling of natural materials.	Adults and children	All parties involved will be required to wear weather appropriate clothing to avoid slips and falls. Although children will be told to take their time when exploring and ensure they do not run but walk. Along with some other rules, the children will be told to not play aggressively with materials they find and be told of the dangers in doing so. All parties will be advised to stay aware of their surroundings including plants around them. Children will be shown what plants to avoid such as needles. Practitioners can corner off the area in which the children are required to stay within, to avoid getting lost and to avoid children mixing with members of the public without supervision. Practitioners will check the coned area, for any dangerous items before allowing the children to explore freely. Children will also be told to inform the practitioners of any unusual items they come across and to avoid handling anything they should not.	m

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Out in the public	Children will gain confidence when meeting new people. Children will recognise their behaviour and understand how to communicate effectively with people from different backgrounds or age groups, such as the older generation. Communicating with a range of people, will encourage greater social skills.	Children will feel curious about others around them and may wander and approach random people. Children may forget the distance rule with the practitioners and wander out of the coned areas. Children may approach those who do not wish so.	Children and the public	Children will be informed not to wander off from practitioner, stay in their pairs and not approach any person from outside of the party, unless told otherwise by leaders. Practitioners will ensure 'head counts' are done every 10 minutes and the register every hour. They will also keep close eyes on the members of the public when nearing the party. Children will be reminded of the rules of not leaving coned areas often.	m
Being outdoors (weather changes)	Children get to gain full sense of nature Science concepts of the weather can be explored Some weather may benefit the children's time exploring (rain causing puddles)	If rains/storms, parties are more likely to slip and fall during play as wet surfaces. Risk of un-planned or arranged incidents (taking children into near indoor shelters) If the weather is sunny and hot, the likelihood of burning is heightened.	Children and adults	All parties must wear clothing weather suitable, where layering of clothing can be done. Everyone will be advised to be aware of slippery surfaces and to stay alert. First-Aid kits will be at hand in the events of accidents. Weather suitable clothing must be taken, including sun hats, waterproof coat, sturdy trainers, plenty of fluids.	m

