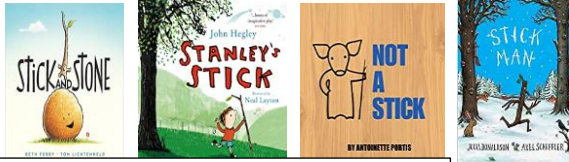




## Books and Rhymes



## Warm up Games

- 1,2,3 where are you -(hide and seek)
- Pass the Stick – Pass the stick round in circle using different parts of the body.
- Stick Tower- Who can make the tallest tower using Sticks!
- Tarpaulin - Put leaves/soft animals/Swampy on top of tarpaulin and throw up in the air! Where will they land?
- Follow the leader- Children copy actions and follow leader around the orchard between the trees.
- Stick Jigsaw- Find a Stick- break into two or three pieces and ask a friend to put it together. Also try using leaves.



**My Tree and Me**  
by Annabel Jane Parker

My tree is my friend,  
And here is the reason:  
My tree may not talk,  
But it tells me the season!

My tree says it's winter  
With limbs that are bare.  
When its buds start to open,  
Then spring's in the air.



## Sticks!

What a wonderful first term we have had at Orchard Adventures! We have been so impressed with how the children have adapted to these weekly sessions! They have explored the site using all their senses and now have a good understanding of our Orchard Adventures rules and routines. We have loved spending time together exploring our orchard, connecting with nature and with each other! The children have shown some varied interests during their time in the Orchard; they have stopped to listen to the sound of the rain as it splashes onto the ground and into the pots and pans in the mud kitchen. They have gazed at the birds singing in the trees and they have talked about what they can see in the sky and how the clouds move slowly and change colour. There is however one fascination which has been common to all our explorer children.... we have noticed that our little Explorers have all been fascinated with sticks! They have hunted for them, transported them, and gripped them in their hands like they are a precious kind of treasure. It is important that we follow this interest so this term I will be inviting the children to take part in lots of experiences linked to sticks. There are many wonderful ways we can explore and play with sticks. We can make stick puppets; or use them to make marks with. We can use them as a drumstick to make sounds with or tie a string onto the end of them, pretend they are a pet and take them for walk. We will also be looking closely at the season of winter and exploring the changes that take place. Explorers can't wait to experience the sights, sounds, and smells of all this wonderful season has to offer! Fingers crossed there may be some snow to play in!

## Possible Experiences

- Find a special stick-** what can my stick do?
- Going on a stick hunt-** find and sort sticks- rough/ bumpy, smooth, long, short
- Stick Dog-** Tie rope/ string around stick or log and take it for a walk!
- Stick sounds-** explore what sounds you can make with your stick.
- Mark making with Sticks-** Using Mud and sticks to draw, write and paint, making own brushes by attaching leaves and moss to end of stick leaves
- Making Habitats-** For hibernating animals
- Make our own stick man/ picture** by collecting our own sticks- provide stones, pebbles, buttons.
- Tree, bark and stick rubbings-** using wax crayons to make the different patterns of the trees in the Orchard
- Ice-** Looking at the changes in the orchard. Can we draw in the ice and snow with our sticks?

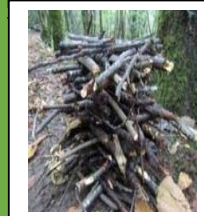


## Possible Checkpoints for Learning

- Learn to talk about seasonal changes in the orchard and look at patterns and change (UW TW)
- Learn to work as a team and cooperate with friends (PSED)
- Learn to adapt behaviour and adapt to changes in routine (PSED MFB)
- Learn to talk about own experiences of time in the Orchard (CL S)
- Learn to take turns and share resources in the Orchard (PSED MFB)
- Learn to dress with help (PD HSC)
- Learn to travel with confidence and safety through the Orchard (PD-MH)
- Learn to listen to others one to one or in small groups (CL LA)
- Learn to move freely and with pleasure in a range of ways

## Opportunities for Reflection

- Tell Swampy-** whisper to Swampy (Our Orchard Adventures Elf puppet) about something you enjoyed/ found difficult.
- Thumbs up/down-** Did you enjoy session? Why?
- Pass the talking stick around the circle-**talk about your experiences and share with others
- Make a face-** Using natural materials can you make a face on the floor that tells us how you feel at the end of the session
- Walk and talk-** talk whilst on the move about the session. Encourage children to share feelings and experiences.
- Tell a friend-** Tell a friend one thing you enjoyed doing and one thing you found tricky.



## Possible Classroom Follow Up

- Photos and videos for children to share on Tapestry
- Children take photos and videos using school iPad to look at back in the classroom
- Children make floor book and draw their favourite experiences at orchard Adventures.
- Have Winter themed books available to access in the classroom to support learning.
- Make time to play warm up games in the explorer outdoor play areas.
- Take stick wands back to the classroom and use in main nursery provision

This is not a stick...

It's a wand  
It's a guitar  
It's a shovel  
It's a horse  
It's a baton  
It's a telescope  
It's a sword  
It's a microphone  
It's a ski pole  
It's a spoon  
It's a fishing pole  
It's a treasure finder  
It's a paddle.

and anything else a child can imagine