

Intent

OWL School (Outdoor Wider Learning) at Marchant-Holliday School aims to provide students with a range of outdoor learning experiences and enhancement of the curriculum. The activities take place in the school woodland, the garden cabin, classroom patio areas and the quarry classroom as well as offsite locations. These experiences enable pupils to explore both the development of their individual skills and encourage pupils to extend their interpersonal skills as they participate in a variety of team based or paired activities. The rationale behind these outdoor learning experiences is to reconnect pupils with the outdoor learning environment and to encourage students to foster a curiosity in discovering more about the wider world, nature and our impact upon it.

The overarching concept for learning outside the classroom at The Marchant-Holliday School is: for our pupils to learn how to respect the environment, develop their knowledge of nature, interact and learn in a variety of settings.

The curriculum for OWL School aims to ensure that all pupils:

- To engage students with learning experiences outside the traditional classroom setting.
- To reconnect students with safe play and learning experiences outside.
- To take part in play and team activities
- Develop a respect for the natural and wider environment.
- Provide opportunities to facilitate communication, cooperation and team work with peers.
- To learn new skills and knowledge in mastering practical tasks and mental challenges.
- To develop fine and gross motor skills
- To work scientifically
- To use their design and technology knowledge to master practical DT challenges
- To transfer skills in problem solving, collaboration, reasoning and engineering into core and foundation subjects

Implementation

OWL School delivers a wide range of learning experiences which are based upon applying practical skills in mastering a range of, physical, mental or craft based challenges. These lessons are planned around a central theme each term, such as Teamwork Skills, Woodland Crafts or Recycling. The eight class groups receive weekly OWL School sessions lasting an hour in duration.

The various outdoor locations on the school campus are used as bases for delivering these sessions including the garden cabin, Triangle Wood, quarry classroom, the allotment, school fields and classroom patio areas. These areas provide scope for a variety of outdoor learning even in changeable weather conditions. Additional sun shades and tarpaulin canopies allow activities to be maintained all year around. A wide variety of equipment and resources are available to support the learning.

The OWL school lead practitioner liaises with teaching groups to ensure that teaching units and individual lessons match pupil and group needs. The pupils are accompanied to sessions by the familiar adults from their classes. The teaching assistants provide a vital link between class and outdoor learning; helping to deliver these sessions and differentiating to meet individual pupil needs. Members of care staff also provide support in sessions and link activities back to other opportunities in the 24-hour curriculum.

Each session includes: a warm up activity, a main task, and an extension task -which consists of a physical challenge or skill based activity. These sessions consist of a range of different tasks for example: woodland crafts, constructing dens and shelters, team challenges and using recycled materials to create new products. Risk assessment analysis linked to each lesson are indicated on session plans.

Two-Year Rolling Programme

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Cycle A Sep 2020 to July 2021	<p><u>Woodland Craft</u></p> <p>Making a Leaf Crown.</p> <p>Pebble Painting</p> <p>Leaf collage.</p> <p>Leaf rainbow or colour range.</p> <p>Making a stick woodland picture frames.</p>	<p><u>Magic & Muggles</u></p> <p>Room on a Broom & Harry Potter themed activities</p> <p>Wizard & Witches Brooms workshop.</p> <p>Making a magic potion.</p> <p>Wizard Hats and costume.</p> <p>Woodland treasure search based upon decoding HP clues or known phrases.</p>	<p><u>Teamwork Tasks</u></p> <p>Paired pitch and putt Golf.</p> <p>Outdoor invasion and team based games.</p> <p>Transportation challenges collecting water or other materials.</p> <p>Dexterity challenges.</p> <p>Assault course challenge.</p>	<p><u>Exploring Our Senses</u></p> <p>The Five Senses</p> <p>Bush tucker sensory box challenge.</p> <p>Visual codes and tracking symbols made out of sticks.</p> <p>Listen to and name woodland animal sounds.</p> <p>Kim's Game based upon visual memory.</p> <p>Make a wind chime / or piece of group music on a weather phenomenon such as 'the Thunderstorm.</p>	<p><u>Environment Awareness</u></p> <p>Plastic Bottle top animals and creatures.</p> <p>Litter Collection tasks on School site or at a local environment, beach or woodland locality.</p> <p>Plastic Bottle weather gauges and rocket ships.</p> <p>Make flags and collages of animals out of recycled fabric, card, paper and other materials.</p> <p>Sorting recycled materials and creating craft items out of these materials</p>	<p><u>Structures</u></p> <p>To make a miniature / model building or structure.</p> <p>To make a woodland bridge,</p> <p>To build a replica Woodhenge.</p> <p>To make woodland shelters and dens out of sticks.</p> <p>To make a team pyramid or tower out of sticks and string.</p>

Cycle B Sep 2021 to 2022	<u>Teamwork Tasks</u>	<u>Campfire Skills</u>	<u>Woodland Art</u>	<u>Woodland Stories</u>	<u>Shelters</u>	<u>Transport</u>
	Confidence and trust games. Transportation tasks (move the log from A to B). Gold Bar Bucket pulley task. Pitching a tent. Orienteering Challenges Using a 2D Woodland map or coordinates to locate clues or hidden items.	Fire Safety Using a flint and stricker Cooking on an open fire. Using a Kelly Kettle. Survival Skills. Social Campfire experiences Making a Hot Chocolate, roasting marshmallows and cooking other food items.	Bark rubbing Using different print mediums to make a variety of Woodland pictures. Stick mark making and drawing skills. Colour rainbow leaf crowns. Charcoal sketching. Driftwood Art. Viewpoint painting	Woodland Craft Activities based upon Traditional Books & Book Characters Role Play scenes from books or making head masks of key characters out of recycled cardboard and other materials. Making Three Little Pig Houses Fairy Doorways. Stick Man Characters Stig of The Dump	Quick shelters Basha (Army camouflage shelters) Shelters for cuddly toys Shelters. Making small animal shelters Paired Shelters Group Shelters	Using logs as rollers 'Stonehenge' Making model planes, boats and cars. Fence panel Biplanes, Wooden block cars. Sailing boats in a plastic bottle. Group go-kart challenge or relay. Milk bottle gliders. Hot air balloons. Stick kites

Impact

Pupil and group progression is shared in the verbal plenary session at the end of each weekly session. Outcomes of sessions are recorded on class iPads to use in conjunction with students personal Learning Journals. The OWL School Lead shares progress with individual teaching groups, reflects upon key achievements and plans for future provision needs.

The work produced in sessions, is displayed in The Cabin and around the school site to illustrate group and individual pupil achievements in tackling and mastering outdoor experiences.

The pupils gain a rich range of outdoor experiences and develop their interpersonal skills by taking part in a variety of team and individual tasks. Pupils will have gained self-confidence after participating in a range of challenges and have developed their communication skills working alongside adults, visitors and peers on a range of practical tasks. They will transfer these skills back into the classroom setting. As their interest in outdoor learning develops, this strengthens peer connections and a curiosity in exploring the wider world. During practical tasks pupils develop their fine and gross motor skills as they handle and manipulate a range of resources. They will have knowledge of natural materials and become active citizens when looking after their environment.