

Collecting Natural Materials

Collecting Natural Materials Risk Assessment

Hazard / Risk	Persons at Risk?	Initial Risk Rating	Normal Control Measures	Additional Control Measures <i>Ensure these are considered and amended before any individual activity is undertaken.</i>	Residual Risk Rating
Inappropriate footwear and clothing. Slips, trips and snagging.	Adults and children	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants advised before starting Forest School sessions with regard to suitable clothing and footwear. • Before going on site participants checked. • On site advice with respect to particular activities, for example, fastening open coats when using bow saw etc. 		Low
Lifting and carrying. Risk of back injury, muscle strain injury	Adults and children	Low / Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants taught appropriate lifting and carrying techniques, leader to model, prior to activity. Participants subsequently asked to model techniques. • Encourage participants to work together. • Encourage participants to consider appropriate routes that avoid obstructions. • Discuss spatial awareness especially prior to carrying longer materials. 		Low
Collecting firewood / building materials. Risk of splinters, thorns cuts and grazes	Adults and children	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants made aware of risks. • Identification of thorn bearing plants. • Work gloves available. 		Low
Stinging and or poisonous plants..	Adults and children	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leader aware of location of main source of stinging plants and able to make participants aware. • Awareness of any known allergies or reactions amongst group. • General rule of not eating things 		Low

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			found on site and hand washing after handling materials.		
Bug hunting – Risk of bites, stings, allergies when handling insects	Adults and children	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check for any known allergies before commencing activities. • Handling of insects kept to minimum with use of appropriate equipment e.g. nets and pots. Focus on observation. 		Low