

Session Outline: Early years, Seasonal changes with Woodland Play

Learning objectives	Session structure	
For children to understand that the world outside is always changing and will be different at different times of year. For children to know what are the key natural indicators for the season in which they are visiting.	 Morning Introduction We start the day with a game to help the children become more comfortable outside, then go to the round house to look at a book about the seasons. There will be an opportunity for your group to have fruit and milk in the morning before we split into smaller groups. Group activities: the class will be split into 3 groups that will carousel around activities themed around Plants: what are plants doing in this season? Exploring the site to see what the plants are doing. Depending on the season we may gather plants to make potions, crowns or rubbings. Animals: what are animals doing in this season? Depending on the season we may visit the pond, look for birds, hide nuts like squirrels, hunt for minibeasts, forage for animal food, or search for tracks and signs of animals. Afternoon Children have a free play session in our beautiful woods. Children can move between shelter building, mud kitchen, rope play, gutter play and minibeast modelling with clay. 	
Before your visit	After your visit	Key vocabulary
Take the time to discuss what the children have noticed has been going on outside in nature	Get a weather tree and fill it in with the class every day. www.weathertree.com/order.htm Towards the end of the year look for patterns in the weather.	Change Season, spring, summer, autumn, winter