

**Risk-Benefit Assessment: Using Natural Materials**

Assessment Undertaken By: Kathryn Day (Headteacher)

Date: 03 January 2024

Assessment Approved By: Trevor Watson (Health and Safety Lead)

Date: 18 January 2024

Activity with Significant Hazard, Events and Consequences Identified	Benefits	Risk Level S x L = RR	L M H	List Groups of People Who Are Especially at Risk from the Hazards	Control Measures	Residual Risk Rating S x L = RR	L M H
Collecting and using natural materials, including: wild art; soil painting; rope mobiles; natural crafts; mud play resulting in slips and falls in wet mud; mud or water in eye or cuts; ingestion of poisonous plants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring textures and changes in matter.</li> <li>• Opportunity for risk taking, getting dirty, playing with others.</li> <li>• Provides opportunity for imaginative play.</li> <li>• Allows children to connect with nature and become comfortable in it.</li> <li>• Gives a sense of freedom - getting dirty is often not allowed.</li> <li>• Develops fine motor skills and coordination (especially making natural crafts).</li> <li>• Fun.</li> </ul>	3 x 5 = 15	H	Children Staff Visitors to School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff with appropriate first aid training always present and well-stocked first aid kit available.</li> <li>• Make sure obstructions are cleared from mud play area to prevent injuries from slips and falls.</li> <li>• Cover open cuts and wash out eyes thoroughly if mud gets in them.</li> <li>• Point out any known poisonous plants and things not to pick, for example fungi, lords and ladies.</li> <li>• Children instructed not to put anything in theirs or others mouth.</li> <li>• Hand washing (or wipes or hand gel) always undertaken before eating and at the end of the session.</li> </ul>	2 x 2 = 4	L



Successful Learners ~ Confident Individuals ~ Responsible Citizens



SEVERITY	LIKELIHOOD	RISK RATING (S x L)	
1 = No injury or illness	1 = Very remote	14+	High
2 = First Aid injuries or illness	2 = Improbable		
3 = Minor injury or illness – up to 3 days away	3 = Possible	5 – 13	Medium
4 = 3+ days injury or illness	4 = Probable		
5 = Major injury or illness	5 = Likely	1 – 4	Low
6 = Fatal or disabling injury or illness	6 = Certainty		

Reviewed By	Review Date
Kathryn Day	12/10/2024