

GRESHAM VILLAGE SCHOOL AND NURSERY  
PROGRESSION IN OUTDOOR LEARNING SKILLS

We use our adapted version of the **Wild Passport progressive skills curriculum** to provide the framework for the teaching of outdoor learning skills from Years 1 to 6. Children are assessed throughout the year and are presented with a certificate if they show proficiency in the skills at their level. The levels are:

1. Beginner
2. Advanced Beginner
3. Intermediate
4. Proficient
5. Expert

The acquisition of these skills is largely sequential with plenty of opportunities to apply and practice. In the first year of introducing the programme, children will need to acquire basic outdoor learning skills, so many will not be working at the level we intend. Implementation in the first year should be as following:

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Years 5 and 6
Woodcraft	<b>Beginner</b>	<b>Advanced beginner</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>
Shelter building	<b>Beginner</b>	<b>Advanced beginner</b>	<b>Advanced beginner and intermediate</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Proficient</b>
Fire	<b>Beginner</b>	<b>Beginner</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>
Rope	<b>Beginner</b>	<b>Beginner</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Tie a half hitch and then intermediate</b>	<b>All knots and lashings, then proficient</b>
Final assessment	<b>Beginner</b>	<b>Advanced beginner</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Intermediate/ Proficient</b>

**Beginner (Year 1)**

	Autumn 1	Summer 1	Summer 2
Woodcraft	Safely peel a stick with a potato peeler	Safely peel a stick with a potato peeler	Safely peel a stick with a potato peeler
Shelter building	Build a nest	Build a mini shelter	Build a den
Fire	Demonstrate fire circle etiquette Understand the need for completely extinguishing a fire	Collect dry sticks	Produce sparks with a fire steel
Rope	Tie an overhand knot	Thread a wood cookie	Tie a half hitch

**Advanced beginner (Year 2)**

	Autumn 1	Summer 1	Summer 2
Woodcraft	Safely use a saw	Safely use loppers	Safely use secateurs
Shelter building	Select a suitable site for a shelter Build a ridge line shelter	Build a ridge pole tarp shelter	Build a log lean-to
Fire	Safely cook items on a stick over the fire	Light cotton wool pads with a fire steel	Collect, grade and safely add sticks to the fire
Rope	Make a basic friendship bracelet	Tie a timber hitch	Tie a reef knot

**Intermediate (Year 3)**

	Autumn 1 Advanced beginner	Summer 1 Intermediate	Summer 2 Intermediate
Woodcraft	Use a flexible natural material to make a ring/ hoop	Demonstrate the forehand grip Safely use a knife to put a point on the end of a stick	Use a knife to flatten one side of a stick
Shelter building	Build a central pole tipi	Build a wattle wall	
Fire	Use silver birch and other tinder extenders	Cook bread over the fire	Demonstrate the tipi fire lay Build and maintain a small fire for ten minutes
Rope	Tie a sheer lashing	String a bow	Square lash two sticks together Make a twig loom

**Proficient (Year 4)**

	Autumn 1 Intermediate	Summer 1 Proficient	Summer 2 Proficient
Woodcraft	Carve a wooden knife	Demonstrate a thumb push grip	Demonstrate a stop cut
Shelter building	Build an A frame	Build a tarp tipi	Build a log wall
Fire	Produce char cloth Create an ember on char cloth	Make a warm drink	Demonstrate principles of 'leave no trace' when using a fire

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Rope	Tie a tipi lashing	Tie a clove hitch Erect a rope swing	Erect a rope bridge

Over the two years of Years 5 and 6, the children hone the skills of previous years through different activities and learn new skills and proficiencies to become **Experts**.

**Year 5/6 Cycle 1**

	Autumn 1	Summer 1	Summer 2
Woodcraft	Use a drill Produce a 3 legged stool	Use a flexible natural material to make a basket	Demonstrate a saddle joint
Shelter building	Build a wattle and daub wall	Build a bough bed	Build a raised platform
Fire	Produce an ember with traditional flint and steel	Cook a simple dish on the fire	Produce an ember with a magnifying glass
Rope	Tie a bowline knot	Build a ladder Craft a God's Eye	Build a sack chair

**Year 5/6 Cycle 2**

	Autumn 1	Summer 1	Summer 2
Woodcraft	Demonstrate a pull stroke grip	Use a crook knife	Produce a cooking utensil
Shelter building	Build a freestanding ridge pole tent with a dead hedge wall	Build a jointed A frame	Build a leaf litter survival shelter
Fire	Create a tinder bundle Use char cloth and tinder bundle to create fire	Cook a simple meal on the fire	Produce an ember with the bow drill
Rope	Tie a bowline knot	Make cordage Build a dream catcher	Build a rope ladder