

“Forest School” at Midland Road

Autumn 2015

LEARNING OUTDOORS



The outdoors offers many of the things young children need for learning such as movement and lots of opportunity for hands-on activity. During the last six weeks we have spent time in the Wild Garden, exploring, playing, making and having lots of fun!

Children from Blue Room and Green Room have enjoyed an hour each week with Beth (an Outdoor Learning Practitioner) and here is some of the wonderful learning that has been going on ...

‘Look! Water from the ceiling. More Raining!’

Rayhan aged 4-Blue Room

Rain! Rain! Rain!



We have had lots of rain to play with and the children have loved collecting the water and mixing it together with other materials such as leaves and mud, pretending to make delicious cups of tea and cake! Beth always put up a shelter if needed but there have still been lots of drips to catch and puddles to play in and we always made sure we were wearing the right clothing.

Young children learn by begin active through moving their bodies and doing things. Splashing in puddles, water play and reaching to catch the rain have met their desire to move and helped to get all the children actively involved.



Creating Colour

Young Children are self-driven learners. They are constantly curious and want to follow their own ideas. Beth made sure that all the sessions were led by what the children were interested in and enjoyed.

The children explored using paint and colour and used it in lots of imaginative ways such as painting leaves, sticks and pieces of wood. They had lots of opportunities to touch and smell and get messy! The outdoors is rich in sensory experiences and an environment where children can use *all* their senses to find out about the world.



Even though we did something a little bit different each week, the children enjoyed repeating some of the same activities. We did lots of counting with stones, sticks and plastic eggs and mark making with paint the children made themselves out of chalk, mud and rain water!



Young children like to return to things that interest them to help them practice their ideas and skills. Through all the activities the children took part in there was always the chance for them to work at their own pace and repeat things as much as necessary.

Working Together



Young Children are very sociable and learn best by interacting with other children and adults. Spending time all together each week gave the children lots of opportunities to share and talk about what they were seeing and doing. We worked together to build things out of sticks, create magical mixtures with glitter and soap and lots of water play. Each week we ended the session with time together talking about what we had been doing and sharing a drink and a snack, which the children helped to hand out.

We have had lots of fun this half term exploring the garden and playing together. The children loved being outside and have begun to develop some wonderful skills. The outdoors has so much to offer children for their physical and emotional development and we look forward to hearing more about their outdoor adventures next term!



Thank You to everyone who has taken part in our 'Forest School' this term

The Children



Omi Nwafor



Alqamah Mhd



Zariyah Ali



Riyadh Miah



Fathima Khatoon



Isijona Marsela



Rayhan Meir



Amelia Saleem



Eliza Khizar



Aroush Abbas

The Staff



Jo Thomson
Early Years
Practitioner



Beth Webber
Forest School
Leader



Mrs Ullah
Early Years
Practitioner

