

Pictou County Forest School - Grade 1 Post-visit Lesson Plans

Life Science: Needs of Living Things

Activity: Build a Schoolyard!!

Overall Curriculum Outcome: Learners will analyze interconnectedness of living things and the environment

Specific Curriculum connections:

- *Requirements for life*
 - *How does my favourite animal or plant get nourishment?*
 - *How are plants and animals affected when they don't get the nourishment they need?*
- *Interconnectiveness of living things of the environment*
 - *How do animals and plants interact with their environment?*
- *Personal actions that can contribute to a healthy environment*
 - *How can my actions hurt the environment?*
 - *How can I keep the environment healthy?*

Materials:

- Craft supplies: chart/mural paper, pencils, crayons, paints, brushes

Context:

Now that the kids have thought about and interacted with the idea of biodiversity, both in their schoolyard and at Forest School, students are now tasked with designing their own playground that benefits all living things. Students might create playgrounds with natural features like ponds, wildflower meadows, orchards etc.

This can be applied by having the students paint on big chart paper or kids could also create 3-D models of their playgrounds by using toilet paper rolls, grasses and sand etc.

Cross-curricular connections:

Language Arts:

- Students can be prompted to write simple sentences describing their playground, "My playground has a pond."

Math:

- Students can be tasked with searching for/adding shapes to their playground, "My slide looks like a triangle."

Social Studies:

- Students can think about how they design their playgrounds so as to be inclusive of people with various strengths and needs, "I put a wheelchair ramp near my pond so everyone can visit it."