

SUSSEX WILDLIFE TRUST

Risk Assessment Form - Activities



Activity Assessed: **ASHDOWN FOREST SCHOOLS ACTIVITIES**

Date: **April 2010**

Activity Location: **ASHDOWN FOREST**

Assessed By: **Nigel Flynn**

Next Assessment Due: **April 2011**

Type of Hazard	Likelihood of Occurrence	Hazard Severity	Risk Factor	Action to be taken to reduce risk	New Likelihood of Occurrence	New Hazard Severity	New Risk Factor
Coming into contact with forest operations – falling trees, flying pieces of wood, unstable log piles, spraying	3	3	9	All to be instructed to obey signs re forest operations. Alternative routes to be planned when notified by rangers; if come across unexpectedly, lead group away and find alternative route	1	3	3
Tripping while walking on paths and especially descending into copse	3	1	3	Warn groups of hazards and uneven path, and tell not to run. Schools advised in advance re suitable footwear. For copse, adults at top and bottom of entry slope to help	1	1	1
Rolling logs onto feet	1	1	1	verbal warning/supervision	1	1	1
Diseases from soil	1	1	1	Antibacterial hand wash/wipes available. Remind children not to put hands in mouth. Wash hands after session	1	1	1
Danger from barbed wire	1	3	3	Verbal warning	1	3	1
MIRROR WALK & BLINDFOLD ACTIVITIES							
Tripping over obstacles	2	1	3	close supervision /check site OR do in pairs/staggered start.	2	1	2
Banging head on trees and	3	1	3	verbal warning and close	2	1	2

branches, or have them swinging back into face				supervision – tell to hold branches, not let swing into person behind			
Education room tools upstairs	2	3	6	Keep chain up across stairs	1	3	3
Sweep nets - injury from sweep nets	2	1	2	Verbal warning/supervision to keep adequate space from next	2	1	2
Dog mess, potential illness	3	2	6	Warn and keep eye open	2	2	4
Nettles, brambles cuts	3	1	3	Warn not to run to sides. Open cuts to be covered	2	1	2
Unacceptable behaviour	3	1	3	Teachers to know their responsibility to prevent	2	1	2
Shelters made by others – may fall down	3	2	6	Warning at start and by each activity to keep away from shelters	1	2	2
Ghyll edges - slips	2	2	4	Verbal warning re steep banks. Take care with activities nearby, esp. any that might involve moving back	1	2	2
Rope swings made by others	1	1	1	Tell not to use	1	1	1
Snake bites	1	3	3	Stay on paths (not go through heather), with adult leading to look out for snakes basking	1	3	3
Dog attack	1	2	2	Warn groups not to touch dogs; leaders encourage members of public to keep dogs away from children	1	2	2
Scissor injuries when working inside	2	1	2	Use appropriate scissors for age of child – round ended for younger. Ensure good supervision to prevent running whilst using	1	1	1
Adverse weather – heat cold rain snow	3	1	3	Brief schools to dress appropriately for weather with alternatives. If weather conditions extreme, cancel visit for that day	3	1	3

No activity may be carried out where there is an individual Risk Factor of 10 or above.

This form should be sent to: Head of Administration, Sussex Wildlife Trust, Woods Mill, Henfield, West Sussex BN5 9SD