



Bradford Peverell, Dorchester, Dorset DT2 9SD

www.newbarn.co.uk

01305 268865

office@newbarn.co.uk

## Activity Specific Risk Benefit Assessment - Bushcraft & Wilderness Activities Dutch Arrows & Water Collection

This risk benefit assessment is to be read in conjunction with the 'Dynamic & Generic' risk benefit assessment.

### How will young people BENEFIT from this activity?

The bushcraft & wilderness sessions are offered as either a half or full day. The sessions will start with an introduction in one of our classrooms and then different parts of the session will be run in Nev's Nook, the hazel coppice & the wild flower meadows, exploring the uses of natural resources, naturally occurring structures and the surroundings of the wilderness.

Risk Assessment Completed By: MCD		Date of last update: September 2023	
		Review date: September 2024	
Risk	Who might be affected	How risk is controlled	Overall risk rating: L/M/H
Use of Tools & Equipment	Staff & Pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Always supervised by trained staff (for example New Barn Rangers and/or school staff trained in the use of scissors etc).</li> <li>Supervision of groups in appropriate ratios.</li> <li>Pupils to receive a briefing talk before the session on the correct use of tools &amp; any safety issues.</li> </ul>	M
Dutch Arrow & Throwing	Staff & Pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The tip of the arrow will not have a point, and will also be covered with tape.</li> <li>A safe throwing range will be used and the children will take turns to throw.</li> <li>The other children will stand a safe distance behind the thrower.</li> <li>The children will throw the arrow towards the coppice and safe areas.</li> <li>A New Barn member of staff will monitor that no other children not involved with our activity are in behind the firing line before each throw.</li> <li>The children will be briefed on what they can and cannot do at the start of the session.</li> </ul>	L
Moving around the area	Staff & Pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The children will have to walk when collecting their arrows &amp; when walking to the throwing range.</li> <li>No Running at any time.</li> </ul>	L



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Stings from Stinging Nettles	Staff & Pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The children will be informed and shown how to pick a stinging nettle.</li> <li>New Barn and teaching staff will monitor that the children take care when picking the stinging nettles.</li> </ul>	L
Hygiene	Staff & Pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Good &amp; Safe practices are followed.</li> <li>Hands are washed before handling food.</li> <li>New Barn and teaching staff will make sure all group members have washed their hands before eating.</li> </ul>	L
Fire, Heat & Scalds	Staff & Pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only New Barn staff will light the fuel in the Trangia stove.</li> <li>The water boiled on the Trangia stove will only be removed by a member of New Barn staff.</li> <li>The boiling water will be given time to cool before the group can taste the nettle tea.</li> <li>All members of the group will be informed that the nettle tea will be hot and to take care when drinking.</li> <li>All group members to always be kept a safe distance from the Trangia.</li> <li>Trangia flame to be extinguished using the correct lids and then left to cool before moving and packing away.</li> </ul>	M
Fire lighting Burns, abrasions, smoke inhalation and/or wider fire spread	Staff & Pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accelerants such as petrol, methylated spirits or paraffin must NOT be used.</li> <li>Make sure all participants have long hair tied back out of the way.</li> <li>Tell participants to blow gently on their ember and place it in their fire pit as soon as they see a flame. Don't hold on to it for too long!</li> <li>Tell participants not to get too close to their fire if there is lots of smoke.</li> <li>Do not feed fires with green/fresh materials; this will increase the amount of smoke.</li> <li>Keep the areas around fire pits clear of flammable materials to avoid fires spreading.</li> <li>Do not allow fires to become too large.</li> <li>Secure all fire lighting equipment at the end of the activity.</li> <li>Explain the possibility of the drill springing out if using the bow drill.</li> <li>Tell participants to check that the ends of the drill are securely seated in the hand piece and base.</li> </ul>	L
Moving around the area	Staff & Pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make best use of space and allow sufficient room for participants in each of their tasks.</li> <li>Select tasks appropriate to the abilities of the group.</li> <li>Some bushcraft activities can be dangerous if not treated with respect.</li> <li>Stop any activity that you think is not being taken seriously.</li> </ul>	L



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Water Collection	<b>Staff &amp; Pupils</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Make best use of space and allow sufficient room for participants in each of their tasks.</li><li>• Select tasks appropriate to the abilities of the group.</li><li>• Group made aware of the risks when building hazel water collection frames.</li><li>• All pointed ends of the hazel covered with tape.</li><li>• Group instructed to be careful when attaching equipment using cable ties or pipe cleaners.</li></ul>	L
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