



Minutes of Networking and Sharing Event

Sunday 7th February 2021 on Zoom

1. Attendance/Apologies		
Name	Organisation	
Mell Harrison	Green Light Trust / Kinda Forest School	
Eloise Wilkinson		
Charlotte Atkinson	Charlotte's Wood Forest School	
Joanne Atkins	Suffolk Wildlife Trust	
Elizabeth Swift	Huathe	
Emma Howe	Green Light Trust / Campfire Wild	
Kate Jackson		
Emma Keeble	Suffolk Wildlife Trust	
Sara Knight	Involved in the Eden Rose Coppice Trust	
Marie Charles	Nature by Nurture	
Sarah Heaton-Allington	Nature of Learning	
Oksana		
2. Welcome and Introductions		Actions
Mell welcomed everyone to the Zoom meeting on this snowy morning and everyone introduced themselves, passing an object of their choice / imagination (animal, banana skin and so on) to the next person in the zoom circle.		
3. Update from Committee		
As only one or two extra people joined the Skill Share in addition to those that came from the AGM, it was agreed that any updates from the committee members and AGM would be shared by email.		EH, EK, SH
4. CPD List		
If there is anything you would like to add to the CPD list before the next skill share please let us know or share it at the next skill share.		SH
5. Fundraising		
<p>Charlotte Atkinson has volunteered to lead a fundraising campaign to raise £400. The purpose for fundraising is to cover FSA Suffolk's insurance for last year, and to bring us up to date. This enables us to enjoy the important benefits of sharing skills with and learning from other forest schoolers, in the woods, around the fire, being all WILD! Joanne, Emma K and Marie volunteered to join the Fundraising Group.</p> <p>The group discussed a voluntary annual fee for membership to FSA Suffolk, which would cover the cost of the insurance required for us to meet in person, in addition to free events.</p> <p>Fundraising Ideas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oksana suggested a fun and informative nature quiz via Zoom. • Marie kindly offered to deliver a wellbeing workshop, which could benefit the mental health of fellow Forest School Folk. • Charlotte suggested a Q and A session for Forest School trainees. • Charlotte has also offered to explore the feasibility of raising money by running an on-site food hygiene course. 		

<p>Action: Charlotte has organised for the Fundraising Group to meet online on Sunday 21st February at 11am. If you have any super ideas or would like to join the Fundraising Group Please contact Charlotte at head@charlottesforestscool.co.uk</p>	<p>CA, MC,</p>
<p>6. Date of next meeting</p>	
<p>Hopefully, in person, possibly by Zoom!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saturday June 26th 2021 • Committee meeting 10-11 • Skill Share 11-2 • Saturday 25th September 2021 • Committee meeting 10-11 • Skill Share 11-2 • Saturday 5th February 2022 • AGM 10-11 • Skill Share 11-2 <p>Emma Howe has offered to host our next meeting from Dyehouse Field Woods in Lavenham when we are able to meet in person. Date TBC.</p>	
<p>7. Sharing and networking</p>	
<p>We shared our ideas on the very fitting theme of SNOW!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snow Walks – Earth Education Mell shared ‘Snow Walks’ from her Earth Education Folder. It is a very special, sensory walk in snow, which is rare and exciting. You walk in a circle with your group following you, stepping only into your footsteps. Then you all turn out and take 10 steps to something magical / amazing / interesting. You can all explore each other’s discoveries... but only using each other’s tracks. Sounds super! • The Green Light Trust are running an Earthwalks Leadership course with Jon Cree on Monday 29th March for anyone interested in finding out more. • One Snowy Night Emma shared an experience of her very best Forest School Snow Day – and how it was possible to notice animal tracks more easily and to show the children. Emma also shared a passage from Percy the Park Keepers ‘One Snowy Night. Likening Percy to Forest School leaders! • Snow tracking Sara shared a great image of animal tracks in the snow, illustrating how when we take a closer look, sometimes we have had more than one visitor, in this case, bird, fox, muntjac. • Christmas tree whisk Elizabeth shared how she wishes she had a dog’s super-power to build up an image of a place before they arrive by using their senses! Elizabeth also shared her Christmas-tree-top-whisk-craft. Cut off the top of the tree including the first layer of branches. Peel the bark and needles off. Boil it in water, which will turn pink and smell lovely. You can place it in a cup so that the branches push upwards. Alternatively, you can tie the branches in place to finish! 	

- **Cookie Cutter Ice Shapes**
Emma K shared her ice decorations, which worked very well using cookie cutters! Very effective!
- **Hazel Flowers**
Charlotte shared an image and some information on this winter flower. Look close to the bright golden green catkins in late January or February and you may be treated to a special sighting of this tiny, pink, anemone looking micro flower!
- **Maple Syrup Lollies**
Sarah shared a super idea for those with a sweet tooth, or kids, or both! Freeze water in a baking tray. Gently boil maple syrup, being careful not to burn it. Pour on to the ice in the baking tray in any pattern or your choice. Mind your fillings and enjoy!
- **Subsiting – seeing the ‘numberness of a number’**
For some children, learning the numberness of a number can be confusing. Kate has been using subsiting at Forest School to enable a child to understand numbers better. When gathering sticks for the fire, she says ‘look I’ve got four sticks’ and drops them by the fire. This way, one can come to understand numbers ‘visually’, too and not need to individually count each item each time. Google it!
- **A Sense of Place**
Marie Charles recommended a book: A Sense of Place: Mindful Practice Outdoors.
- **Snow – a blank page**
Eloise shared her idea of using the snow as a blank page, saying that you can feel inspired to add powder paint, mud, sticks. You can be wild or delicate with your choice, or both!
- **Snow sounds**
Joanne shared a recording of a stone skimming across a frozen pond. A rare and fun sound to try!
- **Do you know your galls?**
Steph shared a photo of a less well known gall. Many of us know of the common ones, but could you identify a Rams Horn Gall. Google it!
Steph also mentioned the importance of being able to create something cool, like ice decorations.... and then SMASHING THEM! So cool!

Minutes taken by Emma Howe.