



Cross-curricular
Age 4-7

Story sticks

- Literacy and language – story writing



Overview

- This activity uses a stick to record a journey and tell the story of where you have been and what you found along the way.

Learning outcomes

- To structure writing with a beginning, middle, and end.
- To use time words and openers in story writing.

Equipment

- Journey sticks with elastic wrapped around them for collecting items
- Sketch map or outline of school grounds
- Pencils and clipboards

Activity

1. Define an area that pupils can explore and move around.
2. Demonstrate how to attach items under the elastic on their sticks (e.g. leaves, flowers, twigs, feathers etc.) starting at one end of the stick.
3. Send pupils on a journey to collect interesting items, reminding them not to pick up live minibeasts or nettles.
4. Once complete, ask pupils to tell each other about their journey in time order, using their stick as inspiration to structure a beginning, middle, and end.
5. Encourage use of time words and descriptive language about their adventure.

Further activities

Literacy and language	Vocabulary and story structure	Write up their journey as a story using time openers. Use the stick to structure a setting, characters, problem, solution, and conclusion.
History	Early civilisations	Explain how tribes would pass on risks, dangers, and best hunting grounds orally.
Geography	Map skills	Ask pupils to mark their journey on a map of the school grounds or give out marked maps with locations to find.
Maths	Measurement	Encourage pupils to sort their findings in to size order.
	Data handling	Count number of each item found and analyse the data.
Art	Environmental art	Create a collage/ portrait with the natural collection.



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