

Woodland activity idea

Simple ideas to inspire groups to engage with woods in a safe and fun way

2) Making 'Green Man' sculptures on trees

Description of the activity / overview	Walking through a woodland, talking about Green Man mythology and searching for suitable trees and materials, working as a group/pair/individual to use river/beach clay to make faces on the trees. Enjoy the variety.
Permissions needed	Ask the woodland owner and be sensitive to where the sculptures are made. Use biodegradable clay
Timescale	Walk – around an hour Variable discussion looking at ideas – 15mins Making – 15 or more minutes
Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Green man books (e.g. Mike Harding's)• Bucket of river clay• Washing bowl/towels
Who's enjoyed it in the past?	Children, adults of all ages
Leader skills and knowledge needed to do the activity (Minimum and desired)	Some history of Green man myths Knowledge of the woodlands, tree I.D. helpful
Methodology	Talk about the idea before the walk to enable gathering of materials e.g. fallen leaves, lichen, bracken, acorns etc. for sculptures – look at pictures for inspiration – then do it, then wash and enjoy the woodland gallery
Key elements	Learning about trees/I.D. of various creative, fun, history of Green Man
Online links	http://www.mikeharding.co.uk/books/the-little-book-series/the-green-man
Any other considerations	Where the clay comes from
Special TIPS!	Have lots of water available for washing – it's messy!
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