

## Just Some of our Amazing Workshop Providers

### Workshop Title - Recycle Pallets and Fencing into 'Den-Houses'

**Description** - Many schools I work in don't have woodland or even trees. To create an environment the children want to explore nature and the surrounding school grounds I often build 'Den-Houses' with them. This provides us with a base from which to explore the surrounding school grounds but also gives the children a very personal reason for engaging in the Forest School process. They love the sense of building something that is their own and once we've completed the basic shell they personalise it with features, doors, windows, furniture, ornaments, objects, decoration, anything they can find to make it theirs. The children always work in pairs throughout the process to encourage teamwork and for space. The 'Den-Houses' can form part a log-circle effect around the fire or be part of a den-building area. The 'Den-Houses' are made from Euro-pallets, which often don't get recycled or re-used by companies, such as Amazon. Because they are slightly smaller than British pallets they get discarded or thrown on the fire. Each 'Den-House' uses about 4 Euro pallets and a recycled fence panel. Old fence panels are also burnt or taken to the tip. Once dismantled the 'slates' of the fence panels make great sides and roofs of the 'Den-Houses'. Skills involved in building the 'Den-Houses' include using a hammer and saw. Co-operation and problem solving. Imagination and planning and lots of fun. The children have a huge amount of motivation to make them, enjoy the process and have a real sense of achievement having completed them. They often become an ongoing project that gets changed and adapted by the children and they evolve into camouflage bases, fairy houses and most recently the Teachers' Rest. The base of the 'Den-Houses' are 3 pallets staked onto each other and these become adapted into a hedgehog house, mini-beast house or some other refuse for creatures or bugs the children would like to protect/help.

**Workshop presenter(s)** - Lee Cook, Sherwood Area Partnership



### Workshop Title - Cooking in the Outdoors

**Description** - This is a hands-on workshop the aim is to give people confidence to cook with young people in the outdoors. The recipes are suitable for all ages and all dietary requirements. The participants will leave with the skills to make a 3-course meal using both the campfire and camping stoves. We will talk about the equipment needed for cooking with groups of students and the most economical/environmentally friendly way of sourcing them. The emphasis will be on simple dishes that can be scaled up or down as necessary and can be easily adapted to suit any dietary requirements.

We will discuss the benefits of eating together and the satisfaction of eating a meal that you have cooked from scratch. These benefits are both physical and emotional, as teaching children how to

cook and what to cook is a fundamental life skill that they can take from forest school and use for the rest of their lives.

At the end of the workshop, we will eat the food they have made.

**Workshop presenter(s)** - Helen Nash and Maxine Fenwick

### **Workshop Title - Tales from the Countryside. Building Hope for the Future by Engaging the Children - with an emphasis on Bee Conservation**

**Description** - An interactive seminar with information, debates and a reading of the tale 'Phoebe the Bee' that focuses on what children and parents know about bees, why we do activities such as making bee hotels and bug hotels, what is the role of the Bumblebee Conservation Trust

**Workshop presenter(s)** - Jenny Bailey – Author & Co-Founder Tales from Mother Earth, Chris Symons – Composer, Tales from Mother Earth and Gill Perkins – CEO The Bumblebee Conservation Trust



### **Workshop Title - Simple Machines – Building our Future**

**Description** - Join Mark and his family for a series of practical, fun, team working challenges investigating the six 'Simple Machines' including The Inclined Plane, Wedge, Screw, Lever, Wheel and Axle, and Pulley. Relating directly to the work of the British psychologist Sir Frederic Bartlett's Schema Theory, specifically Motor Learning you will discover how 'Simple Machines' play an invaluable role in everyday life, Forest School, child development and how you can enhance and extend your client offering with a basic understanding of 'Simple Machines'.

Mark will lead you through a series of activities to experience and explore each of the 'Simple Machines' giving you a practical knowledge base, skills, understanding and the confidence to safely facilitate offerings at your own location with quality low or zero cost creative solutions.

**Workshop presenter(s)** - Mark Clarke, Creativity, Design & Production incorporating Forest, School for All



### Workshop Title - The Secret of the Magic Fire

**Description** - Do you want to learn the secret of the magic fire?

In this very practical workshop, we'll be looking at various advanced fire lighting methods that can create wonder and add excitement to your Forest School sessions.

Fire lighting methods will include chemical, electrical, solar, the fire roll and using flint. We'll also discuss the and demonstrate making char cloth and other charred materials.

Each method will be demonstrated, and the attendees will all get time within the workshop to have a go these methods. That way you'll be best prepared to go away to further practice these new skills in order to at them to your leader's toolkit.

We'll also discuss how these can be used for different age groups, sourcing materials, any additional paperwork needed, and risks involved.

**Workshop presenter(s)** - Martyn Griffiths, In Our Element Organisation



### Workshop Title - Sara Crams 25 Years of Forest School Experiences into 1 ½ hrs

**Description** - Having experienced Forest School (FS) as a leader, a trainer, an academic, a writer and as a participant, I have had the opportunity to extract ideas about the theoretical underpinnings that wrap FS round in a cuddly warm hug. Over the summer I hope to have represented this as an amazingly artistic wall hanging that I can talk participants through, and we can then discuss it.

**Workshop presenter(s)** – Sara Knight



### Workshop Title - Storytelling for the Terrified

**Description** - Do you wish you were a more confident storyteller?

Chris Holland, who created the Storytelling for Outdoor Learning year course, shares a handful of tips, tricks and activities to help you step up to your edges and into your storyteller's voice in this playful, light and deeply effective workshop

**Workshop presenter(s)** - Chris Holland, Wholeland Nature connection



### Workshop Title - Needs in Forest School

**Description** - From basic needs to play needs, from universal needs to what the world needs. How can reflecting on 'needs' help Forest School practitioners create more sustainability in their work and advocate for Forest School? This is the stuff that has helped me connect with myself, with others and the world. This will be a playful and reflective exploration of theories and practice with some provoking questions and playing with sticks.

**Workshop presenter(s)** - Lily Horseman, Kindling play and training. FSA Director



### Workshop Title - An Introduction to the FSA Recognised FS Provider Scheme

**Description** - A friendly session for anyone wishing to find out more about the FSA Recognised FS Provider Scheme will summarise the benefits of scheme, associated costs, the benchmarks, evidencing and the process for application. There will also be a Q and A session. Nell headed up the revisions to the scheme in 2018/2019, manages the scheme day to day and is in the enviable position of examining all evidence submitted by applicants to the scheme, she is therefore hopefully in a good position to help with any queries you may have.

**Nell is also offering a series of separate, bookable 1:1 fifteen-minute slots during the conference for potential applicants wishing to discuss their own practice in relation to the FSA Recognised Provider Scheme and/or discuss their application. Sign-up sheets will be available during the conference.**

Details of the scheme can be found here: <https://forestschoollassociation.org/join-the-fsa-as-a-school-and-organisation-member/>

**Workshop presenter(s)** - Nell Seal



### **Workshop Title - Supporting children in the face of climate change**

**Description** - These are changing and turbulent times. The global Covid pandemic has given us a taste of the life changing and global impact of the ecological crisis that is the challenge of our generation. Children and young people around the world are being severely impacted by changes in climate and environment. They are facing a present and future that we can hardly imagine. How do we best support them to meet this certain uncertainty with resilience and flexibility. The Forest School movement is beautifully placed to offer a robust and resourceful response to children's needs at this time and to find creative ways of meeting this challenge.

This seminar will offer seven steps to meeting children's needs in learning about and facing the climate and ecological crisis.

We will consider

- What is eco-anxiety and how does it impact children (and adults)
- How we build resilience for an uncertain future
- How we become adult allies to children in this frightening time
- The role of Forest School in providing an essential contribution to this time.
- The need for a supportive network and community of practitioners to sustain this work
- How we look after ourselves and build our own resilience.

**Workshop presenter(s)** – Jo McAndrew



### **Workshop Title - Think Like a Tree – Natural Principles for Forest School**

**Description** - Have you ever stood in a forest and marvelled at how healthy, resilient, and long-lasting the magnificent trees are? That's no accident – millions of years of evolution have laid the foundations for success.

In this interactive and fun workshop, we will explore some of the natural principles that all living beings share.

During the session, you will learn direct from the trees themselves and then share how we think that nature's principles can be incorporated into your existing forest school practice. Every tree in a woodland is unique and full of character, so this process allows children (and adults) to find their own way, guided by natural wisdom...

**Workshop presenter(s)** - Sarah Spencer and Samantha Woods

**Workshop Title** - From the Heart to the Woods: Singing for Nature Connection

**Description** - A chance to connect to ourselves, each other and to nature. Connecting inner nature with outer nature by sharing songs that blend our voices and link to nature. All you need is your voice

**Workshop presenter(s)** – Elizabeth Swift, Huathe

