



***No one will protect what they don't care about; and no one will care about what they never experienced. Sir David Attenborough.***

## **Intent**

At Balcombe School, we intend to inspire our young Nature Ninjas to **be curious, caring** and **respectful** of the natural world; fostering in them a deep and life-long appreciation of the local and the wider global environment.

Our Nature Ninjas' sessions are designed to enrich learning across the curriculum through inspirational and challenging outdoor activities. Our curriculum intends to offer a wide range of opportunities for children to ask questions, **be curious**, investigate, and design **creative** solutions. Children will learn to be **resilient** when faced with challenges, both as part of a team and independently. All learning is underpinned by an increased understanding of, and **respect** and desire to **care** for, the natural world and its inhabitants.

## **Implementation**

Our Nature Ninjas will experience learning in the following 4 key areas:

### **1. Bush craft**

Bush craft activities, such as knot tying and campfire skills, foster **resilience** by encouraging children to challenge themselves and experience completely new learning. Activities such as shelter building, whittling and woodwork provide opportunities to **be creative** and **ambitious**.

### **2. The Natural world**

Carefully planned activities aim to encourage children to **be curious** and ask questions about plants, animals, habitats and environments. They are encouraged to **be**

**respectful** and to **care** for plants, animals and habitats in their own and wider environments.

### 3. Creativity

Children will use natural materials **creatively** to design and make a range of artwork whilst also developing a greater **respect** and **care** for the natural environment.

### 4. Team Building

Children will develop their **resilience** and **care** for others by working on problems and challenges as part of a team.

During their time at Balcombe School pupils will visit and revisit all of the four areas in order to develop their skill and proficiency in each. They will also experience the woodland in all seasons in order to develop a greater understanding and appreciation of the environment.

### Impact

Children leave Balcombe School having:

- Developed a deep **respect** and **care** for the natural environment and know how they can have a positive impact on it.
- Will be able to identify and describe a range of local plants and understand their potential value and uses.
- Become proficient and **ambitious** in a range of bush craft skills including safe fire lighting, camp fire cooking and shelter building.
- Learned how to tie a range of knots and choose the correct knot for a given purpose.
- Developed the confidence, **resilience** and skills to work as part of a team in order to solve a problem or challenge.
- Demonstrated **creativity** through a wide range of natural artwork.