

# Enchanted Woodland

*Imaginative learning project for year 1/2*



If you go down to the woods today you're in for a BIG surprise. Foxes and badgers, voles and mice, beady eyed owls in the swaying tree tops. Beneath the leaves are tiny footprints—animal or imp? You decide. Deciduous or evergreen? Can you match a leaf to its tree? Can you match a petal to its flower? Let's build a den, stick by stick and branch by branch. Or we could make a teeny tiny home for a woodland fairy. Then let's party down in the woods with Mr Fox and all his woodland friends. We'd better not get lost. Let's leave a trail of conkers as we go. At last, it's time to rest by the woodland fire, listening to stories and toasting our sweet, gooey marshmallows. Yum, yum.

## Science & Art Focus. Key Facts:

- A woodland is a large area of land covered in trees. Woodlands are habitats for a wide range of animals and plants.
- Trees can be identified from their bark, leaves, flowers, fruit and seeds.
- Trees that lose their leaves in the autumn are deciduous; they normally have wide, flat leaves. Examples include oak, beech and rowan
- Trees that keep their leaves all year round are called evergreen; they normally have thin, needle-like leaves. Examples include holly and pine
- There are many types of flowering plant that grow in woodlands; some grow from bulbs such as snowdrops and bluebells. Others grow from seeds such as foxgloves and wood anemones
- Lots of different animals live in woodlands including mammals (red foxes, grey squirrels), birds (eg blackbirds and tawny owls), amphibians (eg common toads and smooth newts), reptiles (eg grass snakes and slow worms) and invertebrates (eg ground beetles and garden snails)
- Carnivores eat other animals (eg tawny owls eat mice, birds and frogs), omnivores eat animals and plants (eg badgers eat worms and eat berries and fruit) and herbivores eat plants (eg rabbits eat grass and leaves)

## Key Vocabulary

- ⇒ **Amphibian:** cold-blooded animals that live on land and in water but must lay their eggs in water
- ⇒ **Mammal:** warm-blooded animals that feed milk to their young
- ⇒ **Invertebrate:** animals, such as insects without a backbone or bony skeleton. Vertebrates have a backbone or bony skeleton
- ⇒ **Reptile:** cold-blooded animals that usually have scales and lay eggs on land
- ⇒ **Predator:** animals that hunt, kill and eat other animals
- ⇒ **Prey:** animals that hunted, killed and eaten by other animals

## Homework Projects

- ◆ Take your family for a woodland walk near your home. Take photographs of interesting flowers or trees
- ◆ Search the web for images and facts about amazing woodlands or forests around the world. Make a scrapbook showing the best ones
- ◆ Find out about famous artists who use the woodland for inspiration
- ◆ Make miniature homes and gardens for fairies and pixies from natural materials such as bark, pebbles, twigs, leaves and pine cones
- ◆ Write a 'Who am I?' riddle for family and friends to solve. Write clues about a woodland animal, plant or tree