

Squirrel Fun!



The activities in this Programme can all be played outdoors and are therefore part of the Squirrel Smile Award I'm Active Badge – take part in an outdoor activity & playing 2 new games!

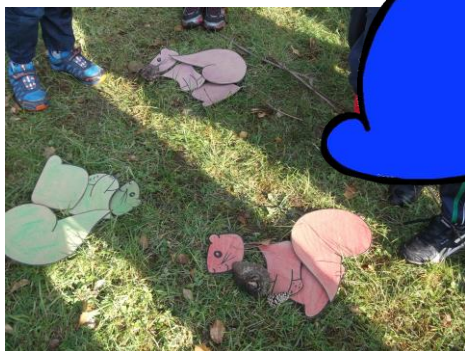
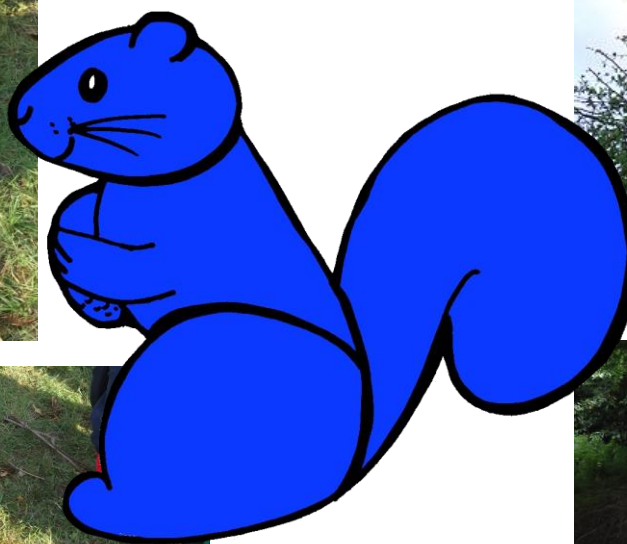
An introductory activity can be used as the Squirrels arrive at the meeting place – colouring or simple puzzles can keep children occupied until all the Drey arrives or use a 'joining-in' style game, such as 'The farmer wants a wife' or 'Duck, duck, goose' or a circle format ball game.

Add snack time where necessary!

TIME (mins)	ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT
5	Welcome, Register, Opening Ceremony, Introduction to Programme	
10	<p>GAME: Squirrels and the Nut</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Divide the Drey into 2 teams, leave a wide space in between the 2 teams</i> ○ <i>The players should sit in 2 lines, opposite the players of the other team</i> ○ <i>Number each player in each team so that number 1 will be diagonally opposite number 1 in the other team</i> ○ <i>Place the 'nut' in the middle of the space between the teams</i> ○ <i>When a Leader calls out a number, the two Squirrels with that number run to get the 'nut'. The Squirrel who got the 'nut' can score a point for their team – return the 'nut' to the centre and play again!</i> ○ <i>If the Drey is large play in two separate groups (with a 'nut' for each group)</i> 	Cardboard 'nut' shape about 10cms in size Score sheet/pencil if wished
10	<p>ACTIVITY: Itsy Bitsy Squirrels</p> <p>This is a kind of jigsaw style treasure-hunt; the aim is to find all the pieces to make a squirrel! In advance of the game, hide the squirrel pieces around the playing area; ensure that there are enough pieces so that every Squirrel has the opportunity to find one piece. Finding the pieces should be challenging for the Squirrels but not too difficult. Take care with nettles, brambles, etc. when hiding the pieces. It may be appropriate to highlight a few 'rules' for this activity – such as simple safety guidelines, staying together and taking turns!</p> <p>Divide the Drey into small groups, the aim is to find all their 'coloured' squirrel pieces and place their squirrel together. The group could then choose a name for their squirrel!</p>	Set of squirrel pieces for each group – cut large simple squirrel shapes from card and colour with crayons – red,, blue, etc. or cut from stiff coloured card
10	<p>ACTIVITY: Make a Drey</p> <p>Squirrels live in a drey or nest made of twigs, dry leaves, grass, etc. high up in the tree tops. Gather sticks and branches to make a giant nest for the Squirrels! If twigs, etc. are in short supply why not use torn up cardboard or cardboard boxes, pieces of fabric and plenty of imagination!!</p> <p>Adult supervision needed when sticks are gathered and carried!</p>	Natural items – twigs, leaves, etc. or man-made materials



10	<p>GAME: Squirrel, Squirrel, Mr. Fox</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>The Squirrels sit in a circle – they are the squirrels and when it's their turn to be the squirrel who goes round touching the others on the head saying, 'squirrel, squirrel, squirrel,, Mr. fox!', they should jump and skip like a real squirrel!</i> ○ <i>When Mr. Fox is picked then this squirrel moves in a quick but sly manner! Ensure that everyone has a turn at being both the skipping squirrel and quick and sly Mr. Fox!</i> 	None
10	<p>GAME: Squirrel Dreys</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Divide the Drey into groups of three with one Squirrel left over. Members of the Leadership team may have to join in to make up the numbers!</i> ○ <i>The groups of three stand spread out around the hall – two of the three Squirrels are the drey, or nest, and face each other holding hands. The third Squirrel stands between them – they are the squirrel in its drey!</i> ○ <i>When a Leader calls 'go', every squirrel leaves its nest and runs to another one, the squirrel in the centre, without a home, runs to find a nest too!</i> ○ <i>The Squirrel with no nest stands in the middle of the hall and the game is played again!</i> ○ <i>During the game, it is a good idea to change the roles in the groups of three so that everyone gets the opportunity to run around and let off some steam!</i> 	None
5	Closing, Home	



Itsy Bitsy Squirrels

