

TREE READING

Reading outside among the trees is different, give it a try



Goal: The children will try reading a book outside among the trees and will briefly tell the others about their book choice and the experience of reading outside

How long: 20–40 minutes

Who: Readers of all ages

Where: A pleasant place with trees or shrubs

When: Any warm time of the year

You need: Books, magazines, comics, seat cushions, hammocks

PREPARATION IN ADVANCE

Invite the children to bring their favourite books on nature, trees, forest, or woodland animals.

1. TREE LIBRARY

Prepare a selection of books about trees, forests, bushes, nature, animals living among trees and also books full of fantasy and legends about nature. The children sit around the books and briefly introduce the ones they brought in and why they chose these in particular. It doesn't matter if some children don't bring a book, they can choose one from the selection on offer and describe why they chose those. It's great when the guide gives a brief introduction to the book they picked so as to give the children an example of how it is done.

TIP: It is possible to work with children who can't read yet. In this case select picture books in which the children can browse and „read“ the illustrations and tell the stories they see in them.

2. READING WITH A TREE

Ask the children to find a spot around the trees or shrubs where it feels good. Have them sit down and read by themselves for a while. Children may sit around the same tree as long as they don't interfere with each other.

TIP: You can also choose a variant in which you all sit together and take turns reading a book out loud (e.g. Toby Alone). The guide can read out loud for the youngest children.

TIP: It is great to read in hammocks. Children love the comfort and the gentle swinging motion.

TIP: You can make this activity into a regular reading session once a week or once a month.

4. SHARING

At the end meet again and talk about what you read and about what it felt like while reading. Was it different from reading at home or at school?

EVALUATION OF THE ACTIVITY'S GOAL (EVIDENCE OF LEARNING)

- The children chose a book and read outside among the trees
- They spent some time telling the others about the book and how it was to read outdoors

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