

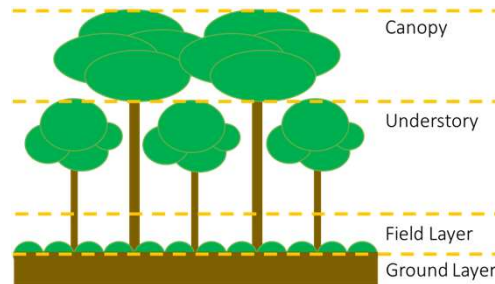
Learning in the Leaves

Activity Impact Matrix



Introduction:

When Considering the impact of your Forest School activities it is important to consider the different areas of the Forest. The easiest way to do this is to consider the vertical structures of the woodland. You can use the table below to help consider the impact of your activities.



Key for Impact Matrix:

P – Positive

S – Short Term

Per – Permanent
(100+ years)

N – Negative

M – Term

Temp – Temporary
(0+ decades)

L – Long Term

R - Reversible

Activity	Area Impacted			
<p>Path and clearing creation – currently over grown site. Grass/shrubs will be cut back. Regular use will reduce growth.</p>	<p>Ground Layer N, S, R Plants maybe lost. However, some wild growing areas will be left. If left to regrow should recover.</p>	<p>Field Layer N, S, R Plants maybe lost. However, some wild growing areas will be left. If left to regrow should recover.</p>		
<p>Litter Picking – Area always checked by adult first to ensure the nature of the environment.</p>	<p>All Layers P,S,Temp Litter removal good for flora and fauna. Due to the area litter will return.</p>			
<p>Shelter Building</p>	<p>Ground/Field Layer N,S, R Trampling of Flora/Fauna as site is used. Braking of leaves and branches during building. Area should recover when left.</p>	<p>Understory N, S, R Braking of leaves and branches during building. Area should recover when left.</p>		
<p>Pond Dipping</p>	<p>Ground Layer N, S, R Damage to plants during dipping exercise. Area should recover when left.</p>	<p>Pond P, S, R Through discussion of care for the animals there shouldn't be any harm caused. Disruption of water habitat should recover when left.</p>		

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<p>Fire Lighting – Whether in small groups or one large Fire. Ensure set up and cleaning are supervised.</p>	<p>Ground Layer N, M, P/R Logs/twigs burnt, ash left on ground layer. Burnt wood will replenish. If fire area cleared correctly ash should be unnoticeable and eventually will degrade.</p>	<p>Field Layer N, M, R Field Layer Areas maybe cleared for fire. Area would recover in time.</p>	<p>Other Layers N,M,R Fires lit under tree cover may mark trees or damage above branches. These area will recover in time.</p>	
<p>Bow Saw - Cutting of ground wood and collecting of appropriate branches.</p>	<p>Ground Layer N, M, P/R Collection of wood for cutting, would replenish in time. Movement of ground layer for cutting area.</p>	<p>All Layers N/P. M, T When collecting wood for cutting some branches, trees maybe felled. Although this is negative ground layer will receive more sunlight allowing new plants to thrive.</p>		