

Year R
Oak Class



Medstead CE Primary School
Curriculum Evaluation Booklet
Autumn 2010

Autumn out and about



Oak Class spends a lot of time outdoors and this autumn was no exception. Children were encouraged to notice the changes taking place around them— at home and in the school grounds. The varying colours of the leaves were looked at, talked about and even replicated when children mixed their own paint colours trying to match them to the leaves they had collected.



'The brown leaf was camouflaged in the mud.'

William



Autumn leaves, fallen twigs and branches, autumn fruits such as acorns and bruised over-ripe apples were all collected and taken into the classroom for further inspection.

The season was also considered during dance lessons when children imagined being leaves blown by the wind, loosened, dancing on air and finally fluttering and falling to the ground.



'I liked being outside
collecting autumn
things.
I liked it too when we
went out and made
footprints on the
frosty grass.'

Lara

Active Learning



So much to explore in Oak Class—and so much to learn!

Are the right number of objects hidden in the drawers? How tall can you build a tower with the giant polydrons? How many wooden bricks do you need to build a castle?



All problems to be solved by future mathematicians and engineers.



'I like playing
with my friends
building things
like castles and
boats.'

Rory

Will it float or sink? Lots of time was spent investigating whether objects floated or sank. Which materials were waterproof and which became soggy and sank or even worse disintegrated!

All of this with a serious purpose in mind of course.

Although it has to be said that playing in water is always fun and extremely popular.

Aprons on, sleeves up and ready to learn!

'The sand sinks to the bottom. Some of the boats sank too!'

Louise



'I like playing in the water tray but my favourite is playing in the sand.'

Julia

Regatta



After reading *The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch*, **Oak class** decided to make boats of their own to ferry sandwiches to the poor starving Mr Grinling. This entailed much building and testing of boats, remembering that the boat needed to float well enough to carry the weight of the sandwiches the children were going to make.



Each group worked as a team to build their boat, deciding what to make it from and how to power it along. Would it need a push, a pull or lots of blowing?



'We made ham sandwiches and cheese sandwiches. Mrs Wright helped us.'

Joy

The great day dawned and there was much excitement! Sandwiches needed to be made—both for Mr Grinling and for Oak class to enjoy. Biscuits were decorated and finally it was time to welcome invited guests (Mrs Cox and members of Larch class).

Each team was successful in getting the boat across the raging sea and delivering sandwiches to a grateful Mr Grinling.

Most teams had opted for sails and lots of puffing and blowing ensued. Following all the effort of blowing and cheering each other on Oak class sat down to a well deserved picnic of sandwiches and heavily iced biscuits.



'All of the sandwiches were
delicious and more importantly
not one of them were soggy.
A biscuit would have been
nice. Maybe next time.'
Mr Grinling

Medstead School

