



WEEK 4 Day 1

Blocks: Building a Forest

Children continue to work together to build trees and the forest using varied blocks and adding Beautiful Stuff.

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Big Ideas | The natural world can improve people’s quality of life and inspire artistic expression. |
| Guiding Questions | How can the earth inspire artistic expression? How do plants grow and change over time? What do plants need to survive? |
| Vocabulary | <p>bark: the protective outer layer of a tree</p> <p>trunk: the main part of a tree</p> <p>leaves: flat part of the plant that grow from the stem</p> <p>roots: part of the plant that grows underground</p> <p>branch: woody part of a tree that grows from the trunk</p> |
| Materials and Preparation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>The Gift of the Tree</i> ● <i>The Great Kapok Tree</i> ● <i>Be a Friend to Trees</i> ● tree images/video, from week 2 ● a walk in the woods, from week 2 ● blocks (unit, hollow foam) ● photo examples of children’s trees/forest from the previous week ● Beautiful Stuff: natural and recycled materials ● tape ● varied paper ● writing and drawing utensils ● scissors <p>Organize a container with Beautiful Stuff that children can use to add to their trees and forest, and include tape, scissors, paper and drawing utensils. Keep images, books and slides available for inspiration.</p> |

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <p>Intro to Centers</p> | <p><i>Last week you started building trees and the forest. Here are some examples of what you were working on. See what you notice.</i></p> <p>Share a couple photo examples and invite children to share about them.</p> <p><i>I noticed you used bigger blocks for the trunk and smaller ones to make the branches. This week we have added Beautiful Stuff and other materials you can use to add to your trees.</i></p> <p>Show the materials</p> <p><i>How could you use these materials to make the different parts of the tree like the bark, the protective outer layer of the tree, or roots?</i></p> <p><i>Talk to a partner and share your ideas.</i></p> <p>Invite a few children to share after they talk with a partner.</p> <p><i>Keep working together to add more trees and tree parts to your forest. Keep collaborating and problem solving together as you build our classroom forest!</i></p> |
| <p>During Centers</p> | <p>As children begin to work, support them to use the resources, including their research, to get ideas. Guide them to consider different kinds of blocks to use. Remind children of the power of teamwork, and encourage them to share their ideas with each other as they build a forest together.</p> <p>Support children as they consider how to use the Beautiful Stuff to augment their trees and forest. Remind them of the power of teamwork as they figure ways to add to their growing forest.</p> |
| <p>Facilitation</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How will you use Beautiful Stuff to add to your trees and forest? ● How will you represent the bark, branches, roots, leaves? ● How does working together help you to problem solve? ● Are you working on individual trees or on a forest? Why? How did you decide? ● How do the images or videos inspire your work? ● How did you decide on what materials to use? |
| <p>Standards</p> | <p>SL.1.K.a Participate in collaborative conversations about kindergarten topics and texts with peers, and adults in small and larger groups.</p> <p>SL.3.K.b Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions as desired to provide additional detail.</p> |

Notes