



Ropes Risk Assessment

Activity Risk/Benefit Assessment

| | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|--|--|--|---|---|
| Which activity is this assessment for? | | Rope play, including holding up dens and structures. | | | | |
| Consider the benefits to the children of allowing this activity to take place: | | <p>Learning to make risk judgements and manage risk for themselves. Balance, co-ordination and general physical literacy will be developed by constructing and then using simple rope activities. Group working and social skills will be developed by participants, including turn taking and socially supporting each other. Learn about materials (strength, flexibility, knot tying etc) and tree types (strength, flexibility and rooting) Engagement with natural environment. Builds resilience and then confidence through success and challenge. Fun, achievement and physical enjoyment of the activity.</p> | | | | |
| The Hazard | Who could be harmed? | How could they be harmed? | Level of risk (with no control measures in place) | Control | Who will carry out control measure and when (before or during activity)? | Level of risk (with control measures in place) |
| The rope may snap or knot fail. | All | Dropping staff or child to the ground from too high, leading to | Medium | Any rope swings will be constructed by staff and children, with the staff member undertaking a Dynamic Risk Assessment of the tree, the rope and attachment (knot) and immediate | KT during the activity. | Low |

| | | | | | | |
|--|-----|--|--------|--|------------------------------------|--------|
| | | significant injury. | | surroundings such as floor and obstacles. A staff member will test any new obstacle first. Children's feet on rope swings will be under the head height of the child at maximum swing/elevation. The rope bridges will be lower than the height of the children's heads, and typically will be much lower around ankle to hip height. | | |
| The branch or tree may snap, bend or uproot. | All | Dropping the child on to the ground from too high leading to significant injury. The tree or branch may also fall on the child when this occurs as well, leading to significant injury or death. | High | The staff member will undertake a Dynamic Risk Assessment of the tree, including the branches. | KT before and during the activity. | Medium |
| Falls to the floor. | All | May fall onto sharp, hard or protruding items that leads to significant injury. | Medium | The staff member undertake a Dynamic Risk Assessment of the tree, and immediate surroundings such as floor and obstacles. | KT before and during the activity. | Low |

| | | | | | | |
|--|-----|---|------|---|------------------------------------|--------|
| Swinging participant could collide with tree(s.) | All | Leading to serious injury if hard enough. | High | Good group briefing and management by staff, including teaching to step off not fall off and vigilance for others entering swing area or overly zealous swinging and getting too close or walking through the area. | KT before and during the activity. | Medium |
| Participants may walk into attached ropes, Participants could hang from the rope in a way that injures them seriously. | All | Leading to injury through contact with rope or sudden trip. Damage to limb by wrapping rope around, or strangulation of neck. | High | Vigilance and zero tolerance of wrapping the rope around any part of the body. Ropes will be tight enough to prevent wrapping around body parts, even in the event of a fall. | KT during the activity. | Medium |

Low Risk (Something which may result in minor damage or slight harm i.e. scratch or bruise)

Medium Risk (Something which may result in a significant loss/damage or major injury i.e. broken bone or other injury which results in person being taken to hospital for treatment)

High risk (something which may result in extensive damage, multiple or major injuries or death.)