

# Forest challenges...



Mojca Rankl

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A forest starts with one tree...



Kindergarten  
Oton Župančič  
Slovenska  
Bistrica, Slovenija



- We are one of the largest preschools in Slovenija.
- Public kindergarten.
- Slovenska Bistrica, Oplotnica, Poljčane and Makole (founding municipalities).





The forest is a place that is changing all the time. It challenges the child and at the same time teaches him responsibility for himself and others.







It is an endless source of colors, images, sounds, smells, ideas and much more. It gives us countless opportunities for holistic learning in, and about nature.





As we plan activities for children's play and learning, we can incorporate the forest into every area of the curriculum. Activities can be carried out in all seasons. We can constantly upgrade and supplement the knowledge and acquired skills of children.





How nature affects a child's development?

It promotes its development in several areas at the same time:

- Movement, health, development of gross and fine motor skills.
- Improvement of attention, motivation and concentration.
- More creative play and imagination.
- Better observation skills.
- Greater self-confidence and self-esteem.
- Better social interactions.

And...

(Natalia Györek, Handbook for Learning and Play in the Forest)





Relaxation...





Every season offers  
new discoveries.







All of this was our motivation when we designed our lesson plan for these school year/ group. We try to include the forest in our work, as a "third teacher".







Unfortunately, the forest cannot be our classroom every day, so we placed a part of the forest in our "forest corner" in the classroom. Children respond to it with interest, enthusiasm and, what is very important, with internal motivation. In our group, we experience the forest with all our senses.

With the help of photos, i will take you through our forest challenges during the year. I hope you will enjoye it, as much as we did.



Autumn... time to collect.





Then we can be creative.





Our fingers can do anything with practice.  
(fine motor skills)





We can overcome  
fear!



Then we do our own research ☺



# Winter...

What is happening in and on the forest floor. Observation of leaves and sticks.



Forrest bingo



Our special tree



Different views, perspectives. Viewing the treetops in winter.



- classification



- training in motor skills



## Various activities:



- making pictures with forest material







Our masterpiece –  
Winter forest.  
And our "tool,, to create...







This is how artists look  
like. 😊







We enjoy creating with all colors. Forest is our inspiration .



There is a lot of green in it especially in spring. We made a green volcano so that there is enough color for everyone.



Spring...





## Joint observation and communication





# Balance



Observing different patterns









We carefully observe the smaller animals of the forest





Even in the surroundings  
of our kindergarten, we  
observe, listen...Sometimes  
we are surprised by such a  
beauty.



# OPAZOVANJE ŽIVALI



RAZVOJNI

Na travniku poišči regra različne faze njegovih cv







Children become sensitive to all living creatures in their surroundings. They understand the importance of the life, even if it's a small bug, or a plant, in order to maintain balance in nature.

We, the adults must set an example.





The forest is an excellent place for experiential pedagogy and environmental education. Especially in early childhood, when experiential learning is what is closest to the child.



The child gets new experiences, edits them, upgrades them, connects them. It strengthens a positive attitude towards coexistence in nature and strengthens the awareness of how important it is to protect its variety and diversity.



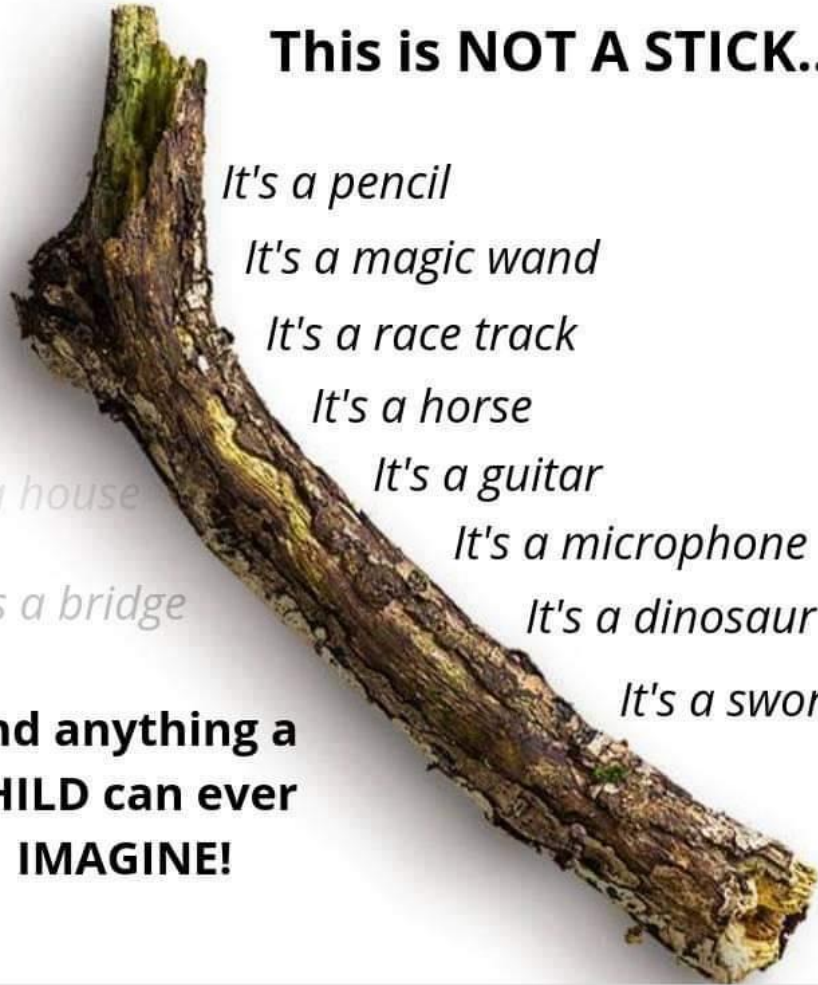


...the end  
and the  
beginning  
of life...





**This is NOT A STICK..**



*It's a pencil*

*It's a magic wand*

*It's a race track*

*It's a horse*

*It's a guitar*

*It's a microphone*

*It's a dinosaur*

*It's a sword*

*It's a house*

*It's a bridge*

**And anything a  
CHILD can ever  
IMAGINE!**

- La Teacher Ninia -

Thank you for  
your attention.

