

PLAY THE PINE WEEVIL

Guidelines for playing the pine weevil game on the occasion of Forest Week 2016

Intended for school class collectives, age – kindergartens and juniors of elementary schools – can be modified for older children too

Mask of pine weevil can be downloaded from www.lesnipedagogika.cz/home

FOREST REGENERATION – WE HELP THE FOREST TO GROW

Forest regeneration is a process of replacing the mature forest with a new generation. Annually, foresters plant 123 million trees in the Czech Republic.

= new 123 million trees in the Czech forests every year – Planting them in one row at spacing of ca. 1 m, you would create a belt of 123 thousand kilometres in length, which you could wrap with our planet of Earth around the equator three times.

Thanks to the effort of several generations of foresters, the forest area increased in the Czech Republic to 34 % in the last 250 years.

The task of foresters is to maintain balance between the felling of trees and their planting in order to preserve high quality and healthy forests for the future generations while the current generation could utilize such a perfect and renewable raw material as the wood is.

GAME 1

The main thing is that the forester does not take notice of me!

Aids: masks of pine weevil (template for copying attached), forest hat (or another attribute of the forester)

- Children are divided into 2 equal groups – transplants and weevils. One of them is a forester (child or teacher).
- Weevils will receive the masks.
- Forester will have a hat.
- Forester will plant the transplants on the clearing (taking individual children by their shoulders and arranging them across the space in the determined part of classroom), turned by his back to the weevils.
- Weevils standing on the opposite end of the classroom will try to get inconspicuously to the transplants and browse on their collars (necks). However, they must do it so that the forester does not take notice of them and their movement.
- Weevils slowly approach the transplants by crawling on their hands and feet. At all times when the forester turns to the weevils, these will freeze – must not move.
- If the forester notices a weevil to move, the weevil falls out from the game.
- Weevils that will have succeeded in getting to the transplants start feasting on them and browse on their collars (necks) (pinching the necks of their classmates with their fingers).

- The bitten-off transplants will get dry and die (plonk down / fall).
- The game is to be played repeatedly several times so that the children can change the roles.
- After the game, the teacher will read the text “Weevil likes the collars“ presented on the weevil mask, and reflexion follows – what the children learned from the game.
- Where the transplant has its collar? Root collar – a place between the roots and the above ground part of the transplant (shoot) – usually closely above the ground surface.

GAME 2

Nosey, nosey weevil

Aids: masks of weevil (template for copying attached), forest hat (or another attribute of the forester)

- The game is played similarly as “Fishes, fishes, fishermen are coming ...“
- Children are divided into 2 groups.
- 1/3 of children will be transplants and 2/3 children will be weevils.
- Forester or two (according to the number of children) stand(s) in the middle of game area.
- Upon the rhyme “Nosey, nosey weevil, surely catching we will“, the weevils and the foresters start running against each other with the weevils trying to avoid the foresters and to get to the transplants.
- The caught weevils fall out from the game while those getting to the transplants browse on their collars (pinching their necks with the fingers), and the transplants die (sit down on the floor).
- The game is to be played repeatedly several times so that the children can change the roles. The dead transplants become weevils in the second round of the game and the caught bugs become transplants. The most successful transplants, which did not suffer any browsing damage, will become foresters in the next game round.
- After the game, the teacher will read the text “Weevil likes the collars“ presented on the weevil mask, and reflexion follows – what the children learned from the game.
- Where the transplant has its collar? Root collar – a place between the roots and the above ground part of the transplant (shoot) – usually closely above the ground surface.

