**WOODLAND BOOK BASKET**

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**Autumn**

Bringing a book alive and adding the magic of story all in a basket. This has been achieved through providing beautiful wooden animals that appear in the story, some natural objects for investigation and exploration all placed in a basket on a piece of Autumnal coloured fabric. I wonder what stories the children will create?

By providing a story basket children are given the opportunity to make up their own narratives in the story, they are able to share their ideas, collaborate and work together. In small little groups allow children the time and space to think up ideas.

As mindful educators ask those all-important questions, Who? Where? what? Why? When. Ensure questions are 'open-ended' and not a closed question.

A closed question is when children just give 'yes or no' answers.

\*\*\*Remember\*\*\* When you ask a question to a child allow them time ( 10 seconds) to hear and process what you have said, then think and speak their reply. Children need time to go through all these stages.

Another simple opportunity for children to tinker and engage with the story basket is to leave it positioned in a quiet place, a reading nook or baby basket. A place a child or children can sit quietly and play, imagine and learn.

Recipe

* A basket
* A range of autumnal loose parts such as fir cones, conkers and leaves
* Lanka Kade woodland animals wooden toys available at Eco tots [link here](https://eco-tots.co.uk/products/countryside-animals-bag-of-6)
* An autumn storybook, here we have used 'Are you there little fox' [link here](https://www.amazon.co.uk/gp/product/1474936792/ref%3Das_li_tl?ie=UTF8&camp=1634&creative=6738&creativeASIN=1474936792&linkCode=as2&tag=thecuriosit0b-21&linkId=a896ee794173d28a9fad0efb5852c249)

