

Discovery Walk Risk Assessment

Activity: Discovery Walk

What are the hazards? Items found for smelly cocktails
 Smelly cocktail
 Sharp objects
 Blindfolds
 Mirrors
 Uneven ground
 Bracken
 Hot water
 Lakes & Ponds
 Bad Weather
 Eating poisonous plants

Who is at risk? Staff, participants and members of the public.

What are the risks?	Existing safety measures/controls	Likelihood	Risk rating
Participant drinking 'smelly cocktail' and contracting illness	Emphasise the cocktail is a smelling cocktail only not a drinking cocktail Instructor to emphasis danger of poisonous items such as fungi	LOW	MEDIUM
Eating Poisonous plants	Instructors to have knowledge of potentially poisonous plants. Group to be watched at all times to control. Group informed not to put anything in their mouth unless invited by instructor in charge.	LOW	MEDIUM
Handling animal droppings, bones, soil,	Instructor to ensure participants avoid handling droppings, etc. and to minimize	LOW	LOW

remains and contracting illness from the contact	<p>their own contact</p> <p>Hands must be washed following the activity</p>		
Tripping over and falling	<p>Group advised about rough terrain and to tread carefully, told not to run</p> <p>All areas maintained to acceptable conditions for the activity in question (i.e. natural woodland for environmental sessions, clear footing where spotting is required etc.)</p> <p>Instructors and participants should wear appropriate footwear</p> <p>Blindfolded people to be guided by someone who can see and instructor to monitor group behavior.</p>	LOW	LOW
Cuts and stings from brambles, stinging nettles	<p>Areas with high density of these plants to be avoided,</p> <p>Group warned of plants presence</p>	LOW	LOW
Scratches or eye injuries from low branches	<p>Warn participants about low branches and to tread carefully</p> <p>Good briefing for taking part in blindfold activities.</p>	LOW	LOW
Cuts/ gashes from sharp objects in leaf litter	<p>Litter picks to be carried out on a regular basis by Avon Tyrrell Staff</p>	LOW	LOW
Inhalation of toxic spores from fungi (e.g. earth-balls).	<p>Group told not to touch and anything but to ask instructor if unsure about an object they have found</p>	LOW	LOW
Cuts from bracken and inhalation of carcinogenic spores	<p>Group warned about bracken cuts</p> <p>Instructors to warn group of spores in late summer and autumn and to try to avoid these areas</p>	LOW	LOW

