

# THE TREE LAB



## Pulley System

- Co-operative play
- Social and communication skills
- Problem solving skills
- Transportation of materials
- Fine motor skills
- Links the 'Explorer Hut' to the 'Processing Platform'



Carvings



## Carved Bowl

- Creative and imaginative play
- Mixing natural found materials
- Social and communication skills



## Explorer Hut

- Provides shelter for play
- Attractive and eye-catching
- Creates a den space underneath to develop imaginative and role play skills



Oak and Larch Table

## Processing Platform

- Gross motor skills
- Open-ended and imaginative play
- Social play
- Problem solving skills - "how do I get up there?"

## Wobbly Ladder

- Gross motor skills
- Balance and co-ordination
- Core strength
- Access to platform
- Sense of adventure



## Wooden Chute & Bucket

- Problem solving skills
- Discussion point to discover how the bucket and chute work together
- Interactive and explorative play
- Understanding of the weight and movement of materials

## Collect & Sort Shelves

- Social and communication skill development as children work together to collect and arrange natural found materials
- Encourages exploration of surrounding area
- Memorable play experience
- Creative and open-ended play

## The Tree Lab

Children play and explore in many different ways and 'The Tree Lab' is all about initiating explorative play through the idea of a woodland laboratory. Many of the interactive elements are accessible from ground level, encouraging inclusive play, suitable for all ages and abilities.

How children interpret the equipment will always surprise adults but the elements in 'The Tree Lab' are there to encourage a different type of play than that of traditional play items. It is all about investigative play which involves finding, collecting and sorting of natural found materials. The Tree Lab also enables children to process elements of the forest flora and fauna, utilising the magnifier for a closer look, the pestle and mortar for mixing and processing and the pulley for transportation of materials. Collection shelves are divided by a series of partitions that encourage careful placement and sorting.

