



Suntrap Shared Stories

Irene Buchan

Suntrap teacher from 1972 - 1992

The look of joy and concentration on the faces of partially sighted children from Joseph Clarke School as they climbed on and explored the trunk of a huge fallen oak. One youngster sat cosily in a hole in the ground – he didn't wish to get out. I remember a frog sitting on a shoe being photographed as we stood in a circle near Fairmead pond; the summer exodus of froglets from ponds – difficult not to tread on as they hopped across the grass.

In a very dry year, when ponds dried out and fires were frequent, standpipes were set up in the Forest and one day we found nearby both a lizard and a grass -snake. Beneath a large oak in woodland near Suntrap the peat/leaf mould smouldered for several weeks but 30 years on the tree still survives.