

Further Activities in the Children's Forest in Bremen

Our young visitors were not only able to help plant a new forest area. Our offer included further opportunities for nature experiences together with landscaping tasks.

In surveys during the planning phase, the majority of the children and young people considered a fireplace important, followed by all types of water and huts or similar for hiding. Little by little, we created and built these wishes together with the schoolchildren: the now very popular fireplace, a wooden hut, a willow tepee and a willow tunnel. Especially the younger ones, but also some of the teenagers, use the tunnel to run around and hide.

Logo of the Children's Forest

A school class for media design at the Wilhelm Wagenfeld School in Bremen delved into this topic in 2013, and each of the vocational school students designed a logo for the Children's Forest Bremen. The best five designs were selected internally by the students, and these were presented to the staff of the Manfred-Hermsen-Stiftung. The choice of the most suitable logo was very difficult in view of the particularly well-done designs. After much deliberation, the foundation staff were able to agree on the 'Child / Tree' logo by Niklas Barning, which can now be used exclusively for the Children's Forest Bremen. We are very grateful to the media designer for this!



The **hand pump** for watering the trees and making **great mud holes** was installed in 2015. The previously flat terrain was enriched with some slight sink holes where **water** accumulates during rainy periods. The excavated material was piled up to form some **hills**, another popular landscape feature where children love to play and run.

A **barefoot path** invites to feel with the feet and offers different sized wooden blocks for various uses. The activity to clean the **nesting boxes** on the site of the children's and youth farm provided an opportunity to learn about the different breeding behaviour of birds.

Beyond the enhancement of adventure opportunities for children, it was also important to the Manfred-Hermsen-Stiftung to create habitats for different plant and animal societies with such modifications of the area. This has visibly increased the **biodiversity** in the children's forest.