

Forestry Talks for Young Folks

A School in the Woods

By James Lawler.

Once upon a time there was a boy. Not the bad boy nor yet the good boy, but just a boy. One morning when he was going to his school he decided he would run away. He thought he would run away from school, but that is where he made a mistake, as you will see.

He ran on and on. He came to the woods and then he ran harder than ever till he began to feel that he must be so far away from school that he would never see it or hear it again. After a while he began to feel hungry and because he could step on his head he knew it must be dinner time. (Not his real head, of course, but on the shadow of his head, as he walked. Did you ever try it to find out if it was near noon?)

He found that it was dinner time, but he did not find the dinner, at least not just then. After he had walked on farther he saw a Jinnee cleverly disguised as a man. He knew he must be one of the Jinn because he had read about them in the "Arabian Nights." This Jinnee asked him where he was going, and being a truthful boy and knowing that it would be useless to try to deceive the Jinnee, he said, "I have run away from school."

"You mean you have run away to school," replied the Jinnee.

"This is the forest," said the boy, "and there are no schools in the forest."

"Did you never hear of a Forest School?" asked the Jinnee. "Come along and you will soon see one."



"This is the forest," said the Boy,
"and there are no
schools in the forest."

