Seamer and Irton CP School – Forest School

Topic: Forest School – Knots

Year 5 – linked to tarpaulin configurations

Prior learning

- Begin to apply knowledge of clove hitch knots through bushcraft activities.
- Investigate untangling knots.
- Name parts of a rope.

Key knowledge I will understand

- Learn how to tie the following: clove hitch knot, half hitch knot, square lashings, a ridge line, and a prusik knot.
- Basic survival knowledge using knots.

Key vocabulary

When a knot isn't a knot: we will often use the word 'knot' to refer generically to all bindings involving rope, cord or string. However, this is technically not accurate as there are knots, hitches and bends.

- **Knot** an intertwining or looping of a rope on itself to form a shape or lump.
- Hitch a fastening of a rope to a fixed point (like a post or stick).
- Bend an attachment of an end of a rope to another end of a rope.

There are also 'lashings' which are bindings to secure two or more items (such as poles or sticks) together tightly, and are used in constructing structures or items.

- Half hitches the half hitch is a simple overhand knot, where the working end of a line is brought over and under the standing part.
- Clove hitch a clove hitch is two successive half-hitches around an object
- Square lashings a square lashing is a knot used to bind two poles together, usually (but not necessarily)
 at right angles.
- **Ridge line** the ridgeline is the thick, long rope that is tied between two trees. The ridgeline keeps a tarpaulin secure and prevents the cover from slipping.

Investigate

Use tarpaulin to make different shelters. Experiment with knots and use a ridgeline to erect a



Ridgeline

shelter.





Wilderness survival - rope and tarp stretcher

Children will be placed into teams and each team will create a scenario that includes a rescue mission. They will then have to safely remove a team member from the woodlands using a rope/tarpaulin stretcher they have made.