

Key knowledge I will develop

- Problem solving and planning
- Teamwork
- Understand what a good den needs to provide
- Understand how the properties of different materials found in the forest make them useful for different purposes in a shelter
- Develop and strengthen creative skills
- Understand how to design and build a basic shelter, and how to do so safely
- Imagine where different kinds of woodland inhabitants would prefer to live
- Learn about testing and refinement
- Experiment with open-ended engineering and design problems
- Apply mathematical knowledge of shape and size

Health and safety rules

- Be careful with your materials – safety first!
- Place all tools within a tool safety area and use the tool safety song when handing tools.
- When moving big sticks, hold one end and drag along the ground – ensure the area is safe and be aware of tripping hazards.
- Do not lift sticks above people.
- Do not put your hands in your mouth or eat any of the foliage used to camouflage.
- Watch out for stinging nettles, thistles, spiky leaves and thorn bushes.
- Avoid damaging the plants or trees – never deliberately break or damage living branches on trees.
- Show respect for our natural environment.
- Use only fallen debris.
- Dismantle your den afterwards (depending on location).

Year 1

- Learn how to build a mini fairy shelter
- Investigate hibernation homes
- Know how to build a lean-to shelter

Year 2

- Understand different structures of hibernation homes, such as hedgehog and wildlife stacks
- Learn how to build a mini tepee structure
- Learn how to build a mini A-frame structure

Year 3

- Learn how to build a woodland hideout using a lean-to structure, big enough for themselves and four others

Year 4

- Learn how to build a free-standing tepee or tepee structure around a tree
- Learn how to build an A-frame shelter
- Look at using a tarpaulin as a ground sheet

Year 5

- Look at different tarpaulin shelters with and without the use of trees
- Consider shape for purpose

Year 6

- Problem solving and planning
- Understand how the properties of different materials found in the forest make them useful for different purposes in a shelter
- Develop and strengthen creative skills
- Learn about testing and refinement
- Experiment with open-ended engineering and design problems
- Apply mathematical knowledge of shape and size