

Prior learning

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

Key knowledge I will understand

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

Key vocabulary

- **Shelter** – a place giving temporary protection, used for safety and retreat.
- **Structure** – a specific arrangement of things.
- **Camouflage** – to hide or disguise something.
- **Lean-to** – a lean-to shelter is a structure that leans on an existing building, against another wall/fence or against a tree.
- **Waterproof** – waterproofing is the process of making an object or structure waterproof or water-resistant so that it remains relatively unaffected by water/resists the ingress of water under specified conditions.
- **Tree-fork** – the term ‘fork’ in a tree describes an axis that gives rise to two or more equivalent axes, which together form sharp angles. Forks can appear on the trunk or on the branches at various times in the life of a tree.
- **Ridge pole** – the highest horizontal pole.

Take into consideration

- **Size and shape:** The basic shape of a lean-to is like a football goal. Find two trees far enough apart to fit one person lying down. This will help visualise the space inside.
- **Camouflage:** When piling the leaves or grasses on your shelter, start from the ground and work your way up, making sure there are no gaps. To insulate and waterproof the shelter effectively add plenty of layers, ideally a depth from your finger tips to your elbow.
- Autumn is the best time to build a shelter due to fallen leaves and branches.

Lean-to structure

- **Step 1:** Find two forked trees that are far enough apart.
- **Step 2:** Look for a stick long enough to fit between both forked trees; this will become the ridge pole. Secure the ridge pole in between the forked branches.
- **Step 3:** Lay sticks up against the ridge pole as close together as possible.
- **Step 4:** Once you are happy with your design and have placed as many sticks as needed, cover the gaps with smaller twigs.
- **Steps 5:** To camouflage use plenty of natural debris (dead leaves, pine needles, branches, bark, grasses, etc.).

Two forked trees



Ridge pole



Camouflage