



Forest Shelters



For Teachers

Age: 4 - 11 year olds ⌚ **Minimum time needed:** 90 minutes

Curriculum links:

Design and Technology

- Develop design criteria to inform the design of products that are fit for purpose.
- Select from and use a wider range of materials and components.
- Evaluate their ideas and products against their own design criteria and consider the views of others to improve their work.

Consider the purpose of a den and develop design criteria to fulfil that purpose. Follow stages that plan, design, build and review the making of a den in a forest. Include methods to select suitable sizes, length and width of material. Taking feedback from other groups, amend and improve designs.

Get Ready

- Small toy figures such as teddies and action men
- Camera



Get Set

- Imagine that the toys are stranded in the forest for the night and need to be kept safe and warm.
- Discuss what can be done to help them.
- Consider how a shelter/den could be fit for purpose.



Hint: Appropriate size, the wind direction, weather, insulation from the floor, gathering water, location

Go

- Working in groups, and considering the space and materials available, design and build a shelter for their toy.
- As a class, tour each group's den.
- For each den consider: What went well? How could it be made even better?
- In their group discuss how they might adapt their designs given the feedback.



Go Beyond

Research different shelter designs online and talk in groups about how they each fit their purpose.

Create details for their den if they were to rent it out as a home, such as location suitability and key features.

