

VIRTUAL CAMPING

TEACHERS GUIDE

SESSION NAME:	BUILDING A SHELTER IN THE OUTDOORS GRADE 5 & 6
DURATION:	40 MINUTES

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

- An introduction to tarp use and how to build/design shelters for purpose
- Reinforcing knots knowledge already learnt in knots session
- Discuss importance of building shelter in the outdoors

CURRICULUM LINKS:

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Explore how participation in outdoor activities supports personal and community health and wellbeing and creates connections to the natural and built environment ([VCHPEP113](#))

CRITICAL & CREATIVE THINKING

- Investigate a range of problem-solving strategies, including brainstorming, identifying, comparing and selecting options, and developing and testing hypotheses ([VCCCTM020](#))

TEACHER REQUIRED RESOURCES

- Area to construct shelters
- Loaded building shelter in the outdoors video

PARTICIPANT REQUIRED RESOURCES

- Tarps, cuts of rope, bed sheets, drop sheets materials that will work.
- If a school has access to an outdoor space with sticks etc this can be used instead of tarps to build huts etc.
- Access to an area where shelters can be built – playgrounds, classrooms etc.

LOCATION/AREA SET UP:

- Appropriate space that is clear or large enough to build shelters in. Classroom with tables and chairs pushed to the side, outdoor space such as a playground, indoor hall space etc. this will be at the schools discretion as it will vary school by school.
- Set-up – tarps, ropes and any other equipment required to build shelters with.

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

MAIN CONTENT:

- Pause video at 4:05
- It's time for the students to build their shelters
- Students need to decide if they are going to be building their shelters inside or outside.
- If inside: see what resources are available to use
- If outside: check the weather forecast before heading outside. Give students instructions on where they can build
- When building shelter the students must take into consideration:
 - Direction of wind and strength
 - Dangerous trees in the area that might land on shelter if they fall
 - Surface and flatness of the ground
 - Forecasted weather
- When building shelter students can use knots that were covered in "Knot-Tying" session
 - [Half Hitch](#)
 - [Clove Hitch](#)
 - [Square Lashing](#)
- When building shelter students must follow important safety rules:
 - Don't lift anything too heavy
 - Don't lift and place anything above your head while standing
 - Steer clear of wobbly constructions
- Press Play once covered the rules
- Press Pause at 4:19
- Students now have the opportunity build their shelter. This can be completed as a whole class or in smaller individual groups.
- If students are building their shelter indoors then once they are completed turn on the indoor fans and see if their shelter blows over. This is to simulate wind
- If students are building shelter outdoors then once they have completed building shelter throw a bucket of water over the top of it (with no students underneath) to test the waterproofness of their shelter.
- Press play once challenges have been completed.

DEBRIEF/FAREWELL:

- Students to present shelters to each other – Welcome to my shelter: this is a good debrief tool as they can discuss reasons why and demonstrate learnings around shelter
- If they were to go on an expedition this weekend what materials at home do they have that they could use? Remember you want things that are waterproof.
- Deconstruction of the shelters