



Session Information

Den building



This session can be run at any time of year, it is designed to inspire children's creative and constructive talents. Whilst making their shelters they will also be thinking about animals habitats and what they need to survive.

By the end of the session the children will...

Have created a shelter/den either in a group or on their own. Discussed what animals require from a habitat, and ensured that their shelter can provide it. Older children will create dens they can fit inside, younger children can make dens for a variety of animal toys supplied by the trust for the activity.

Curriculum Links

- Physical education
- Habitats
- Plants and Animals
- Animal and Plant vocabulary
- Construction techniques

What you need to bring

- Suitable outdoor clothing
 - Sensible shoes and Waterproofs
 - Sunscreen, sun hats and long sleeves
- (I have a small selection of wellies that children can borrow – but it is best to ring me beforehand to check I have enough of the relevant sizes.)

Session Outline

I will introduce the idea of habitats and we will discuss what creatures need from a habitat. Then the children choose a creature to create a den for, each den must contain the four things a creatures habitat needs to provide (Shelter, water, air and food).

We will then go down to Woodhill Meadow and the children work in teams to create their den. Using materials supplied by the group leader and whatever they can forage from the field site the children construct dens for their creatures.

A tour of all the dens will conclude the activities, after which the children dismantle them.

Suggested Follow up Activities

Habitat in a box. Create 3-D habitats in shoe boxes. Make sure that each habitat has something to produce air, a water source, some shelter and some food.

Wall Display: Split a board into 4 sections: Shelter, Water, Air and Food, get the children to put different examples of each feature into the different sections. (For air use pictures of things that produce oxygen).

