Shelter survival facts

What can nature teach us about keeping protected?



WHY IS SHELTER IMPORTANT?

Shelter helps reduce exposure to wind and rain. Outdoors, finding a suitable, safe place is often just as important as building something.

THREE BIG IDEAS

WIND: the direction and strength of wind affect where shelter belongs.

WATER: a roof needs to direct rain away, not into the shelter.

STABILITY: a wide, balanced base helps a structure stay upright.

Mini shelter builds are learning games, not emergency shelter instructions.

A shelter scientist

Try an experiment with your miniature model.

A-FRAME SHAPE

A ridge with two sloping sides can help leaves and rain slide down.

THE OVERLAP TEST

Layers work best when upper leaves overlap lower leaves like roof tiles.

THE BREEZE TEST

A gentle puff of air can show if the roof needs more support.

THE DRIP TEST

With adult help, drip a little water onto the roof and watch where it goes.

DID YOU KNOW?

Many birds make nests using twigs, grasses and other natural materials. Watch from a distance: active nests should never be disturbed.