

# Shelter Building 1

**Everyone loves building a den or hideaway. Part 1 uses simple household items to shelter from sun or rain.**

**Use simple items and any outdoor space to create your shelter. Promotes problem solving combined with fun and play. Challenge is to create a shelter outdoors that can 1. Be a hideaway 2. Shade from the sun 3. Keep dry from rain.**

### One possible solution:

1. Take a large bed sheet, blanket or if possible groundsheet or tarpaulin.
2. Identify two trees the sheet, or similar, could be tightly stretched between. Instead of trees then items such as fence posts, washing line or gate could be used.
3. Wrap each corner of the sheet around a separate stone and secure it by tightly wrapping and tying a length of 2m string around the top two corners, 1m length for the bottom two corners.
4. Tightly pull apart the top two corners holding the 2m strings and tie to the trees, about 1.5m off the ground.
5. Pull the bottom corners out and peg out using the 1m string. If you don't have pegs try whittling wood (see Peeler Whittling sheet), nails, or even kitchen cutlery. No grass? Use heavy weights like bricks, full paint pots or large buckets of water.

**Time to test. Hideaway test, can you be seen? Sun test, is it shady? Water test, pour on water do you stay dry?**

### Notes:

YouTube video <https://youtu.be/PDYbZ9tnAug> on Shelter Building 1, Arete Outdoor Centre channel.

Please see our 'Shelter Building 2' activity sheet for building entirely natural shelters.

## Physical Skill

*Develop and acquire technical knowledge and skills.  
Develop physical skills that they can adapt and apply.*

### Time:

30 min

### Space:

Garden or Park

### Equipment:

Bedsheet or tarpaulin, 2m string x2, 1m string x2, 4 stones, 2 pegs

