



## Outdoor Homes

In this activity we want you to investigate different outdoor homes and who might live in them.



Take your pick from the list of suggested ideas, which may have come from existing resources (e.g. Roundabouts / Handbooks / Badges / GFIs / Octants and other Girlguiding publications or choose your own activity).

You can gain your badge by challenging yourself to do something new and participating in activities involving being outdoors and looking at different types of shelters.

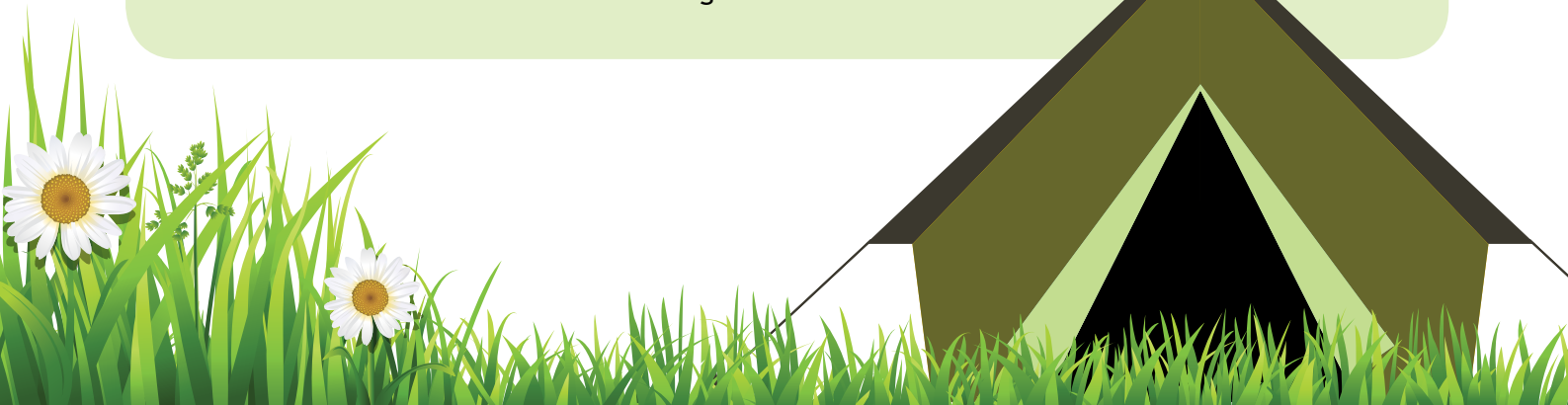
### All Age Activity ideas

- > Try out different types of tents and assess when you would use each type



### Rainbow ideas

- > Make a shelter, using natural material, to be large enough to be home for a LEGO person
- > Make a simple bug hotel using straws and place it in a suitable outdoor location. Visit it to see if anything has moved in
- > Use golf/fishing umbrellas as temporary shelters to listen to a story
- > Use an old blanket/groundsheet to make a temporary shelter for your bags when you are having fun outdoors
- > Have a short walk in the woods looking for animal homes



## Brownies

### Brownie ideas

- > Use a parachute outdoors to make a dome and sing some campfire songs
- > At dusk look for birds gathering to go home to their roost
- > Early in the morning watch for rabbits emerging from their burrows
- > With the help of a local expert visit a foxes' den and watch them at play
- > Watch a spider spin a web
- > Look under a rotting log and see who lives there

### Links / Extensions

Badges:  
Wildlife Explorer



### Guide ideas

- > Make a ladybird lodge from a plastic bottle, place in a suitable outdoor location so that you can observe what moves in
- > Build yourself a shipwreck shelter and sleep in it
- > Design and make a mobile home e.g. tepee
- > Make a mini beast city
- > Build a toad house
- > Sit still and quiet near a badgers' set at dusk and watch them leaving their sets to feed
- > Find a spider's nest in long grass

## Guides

### Links / Extensions

Badges:  
Survival

GFI:  
Grrreen / Be Constructive  
Camp Out / I will Survive  
Animal Active

### The Senior Section ideas

- > Build a bivouac and sleep in it over night
- > Ask permission from a farmer to sleep over night in his barn. Who do you share the night with?
- > Investigate different types of birds' nests and identify who the owners are
- > Study how ants take food, such as sugar syrup from green fly, into their home
- > Find out how ants operate as a society

## The Senior Section





## Websites

### How to / Activities

- > [www.bbc.co.uk/breathingplaces/downloads/how\\_to\\_poster/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/breathingplaces/downloads/how_to_poster/)
- > [www.redtedart.com/2013/06/26/simple-bug-hotel-for-kids/](http://www.redtedart.com/2013/06/26/simple-bug-hotel-for-kids/)
- > [inhabitat.com/diy-how-to-build-an-insect-hotel-from-found-materials/](http://inhabitat.com/diy-how-to-build-an-insect-hotel-from-found-materials/)
- > [www.playparachutes.com/pagaac.html](http://www.playparachutes.com/pagaac.html)
- > [www.teachingideas.co.uk/pe/paraother.htm](http://www.teachingideas.co.uk/pe/paraother.htm)
- > [www.rspb.org.uk/makeahomeforwildlife/advice/gardening/insects/building\\_homes.aspx](http://www.rspb.org.uk/makeahomeforwildlife/advice/gardening/insects/building_homes.aspx)
- > [www.uksafari.com/spottylodgers.htm](http://www.uksafari.com/spottylodgers.htm)
- > [www.survival-manual.com/short-term-shelters.php](http://www.survival-manual.com/short-term-shelters.php)
- > [www.wilderness-survival.net/shelters-2.php](http://www.wilderness-survival.net/shelters-2.php)
- > [www.natureskills.com/survival/primitive-shelter/](http://www.natureskills.com/survival/primitive-shelter/)
- > [www.naturedetectives.org.uk/download/play\\_spring\\_minibeastcity.htm](http://www.naturedetectives.org.uk/download/play_spring_minibeastcity.htm)
- > [www.welcomewildlife.com/?folder=pages%2Furban+wildlife%2Famphibians%2Ftoad+house](http://www.welcomewildlife.com/?folder=pages%2Furban+wildlife%2Famphibians%2Ftoad+house)
- > [familycrafts.about.com/od/frogcrafts/a/How\\_To\\_Make\\_A\\_Toad\\_Village.htm](http://familycrafts.about.com/od/frogcrafts/a/How_To_Make_A_Toad_Village.htm)
- > [www.kidspot.com.au/kids-activities-and-games/Outdoor-activities+9/Build-your-own-ant-farm+11471.htm](http://www.kidspot.com.au/kids-activities-and-games/Outdoor-activities+9/Build-your-own-ant-farm+11471.htm)



## Information Websites

- > [www.kidport.com/reflib/science/animalhomes/animalhomes.htm](http://www.kidport.com/reflib/science/animalhomes/animalhomes.htm)
- > [www.bbc.co.uk/nature/habitats](http://www.bbc.co.uk/nature/habitats)
- > [www.rspb.org.uk/discoverandenjoynature/discoverandlearn/birdguide/name/s/starling/roosting.aspx](http://www.rspb.org.uk/discoverandenjoynature/discoverandlearn/birdguide/name/s/starling/roosting.aspx)
- > [news.bbc.co.uk/earth/hi/earth\\_news/newsid\\_9175000/9175793.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/earth/hi/earth_news/newsid_9175000/9175793.stm)
- > [www.rabbitmatters.com/wilddrabbits.html](http://www.rabbitmatters.com/wilddrabbits.html)
- > [www.ehow.co.uk/how\\_8506402\\_locate-fox-den.html](http://www.ehow.co.uk/how_8506402_locate-fox-den.html)
- > [www.youtube.com/watch?v=9qaaYlpVmJM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9qaaYlpVmJM)
- > [arachnophiliac.info/burrow/how\\_webs\\_are\\_made.htm](http://arachnophiliac.info/burrow/how_webs_are_made.htm)
- > [www.gladysblackeagle.org/project-ideas/ecology-of-the-rotten-log](http://www.gladysblackeagle.org/project-ideas/ecology-of-the-rotten-log)
- > [www.discoverwildlife.com/wildlife-gardens/how-promote-rot-your-garden](http://www.discoverwildlife.com/wildlife-gardens/how-promote-rot-your-garden)
- > [www.edenproject.com/learn/schools/lesson-plans/minibeast-trackers](http://www.edenproject.com/learn/schools/lesson-plans/minibeast-trackers)
- > [www.naturedetectives.org.uk/download/ideal\\_minibeasts\\_ground.htm](http://www.naturedetectives.org.uk/download/ideal_minibeasts_ground.htm)
- > [www.field-studies-council.org/breathingplaces/minibeasts.htm](http://www.field-studies-council.org/breathingplaces/minibeasts.htm)
- > [badgerwatcher.com/2010/02/21/how-to-recognise-a-badger-sett/](http://badgerwatcher.com/2010/02/21/how-to-recognise-a-badger-sett/)
- > [www.discoverwildlife.com/british-wildlife/how-identify-animal-holes](http://www.discoverwildlife.com/british-wildlife/how-identify-animal-holes)
- > [www.badgertrust.org.uk/badgers/watching-badgers.aspx](http://www.badgertrust.org.uk/badgers/watching-badgers.aspx)
- > [www.discoverwildlife.com/wildlife-gardens/how-identify-garden-bird-nests](http://www.discoverwildlife.com/wildlife-gardens/how-identify-garden-bird-nests)
- > [www.countrylife.co.uk/features/how-to-identify-bird-nests-70904](http://www.countrylife.co.uk/features/how-to-identify-bird-nests-70904)
- > [insects.about.com/od/coolandunusualinsects/f/antsandaphids.htm](http://insects.about.com/od/coolandunusualinsects/f/antsandaphids.htm)
- > [antark.net/ant-life/ant-feeding/ant-farming/](http://antark.net/ant-life/ant-feeding/ant-farming/)
- > [animals.howstuffworks.com/insects/ant-info3.htm](http://animals.howstuffworks.com/insects/ant-info3.htm)
- > [discovermagazine.com/2003/nov/the-secret-life-of-ants](http://discovermagazine.com/2003/nov/the-secret-life-of-ants)



Let us know what you've been up  
to on the **Growing Up Wild** website!

