

Surviving the Stone Age – half day option

The session will begin by discussing differences between the Stone Age and present day. Activities in the forest may include; visiting the stream to consider why people might choose to settle nearby, collecting clay from under the ground, finding wild food and using natural writing tools. They will work in groups to build a shelter using natural materials. There is an option to show children how to light a fire using a similar method to what was used in the Stone Age, sitting around it to enjoy their packed lunch (weather dependent).

Learning objectives

- to consider how people in the Stone Age would have survived
- to find out about some of the rocks that people would have used during the Stone Age
- to select appropriate materials to build a structure that will meet the specified criteria (warm and waterproof)
- to collaborate with others in a group to solve a problem or make a decision
- to develop some of the skills involved in group work, such as negotiating, problem-solving, debating
- to evaluate their teamwork and shelter, identifying strengths and areas for development

Some suggestions for visit preparation

1. Discuss how people found food and water in the Stone Age
2. Look at some examples of what people used for shelter in the Stone Age.

Follow on suggestions

1. Groups reflect on how well they worked together and whether their shelter met the required criteria.
2. Design a model of a camp in the Stone Age.

National curriculum links

KS2 History

- changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age



Design and Technology

Make

- select from and use a wider range of materials and components, including construction materials, textiles and ingredients, according to their functional properties and aesthetic qualities



Evaluate

- evaluate their ideas and products against their own design criteria and consider the views of others to improve their work



PSHE guidance

to equip pupils with a sound understanding of risk and with the knowledge and skills necessary to make safe and informed decisions

Y3 Science

Rocks

- compare and group together different kinds of rocks on the basis of their appearance and simple physical properties



EVENT SPECIFIC RISK ASSESSMENT



Visit details: Surviving the Stone Age

Carried out by: Suntrap Centre

Date: Jan 2019

Issue	How to manage it
Understanding/behaviour	Class teacher to advise Suntrap staff of any children who may need extra support out in the forest to help them to follow instructions. School to ensure that there is appropriate adult: children ratios as required.
Medical conditions	It is school's staff responsibility to ensure they bring and administer medication needed for any particular children. Suntrap staff to check that school staff brings medication out into the forest. All adults to be made aware of any medical conditions. Suntrap staff will carry a first aid kit.
Getting lost	Keep within sight of teacher/adult & observe boundaries as directed by the staff.
Choking/Poisoning	No eating outside unless directly instructed by Suntrap staff.
Falling branches	During extreme weather conditions Suntrap staff will make an assessment to ensure it is safe to enter the forest.
Injury from horses/dogs or bikes	Group to be instructed to stand to the side, be quiet and still when horses, dogs or bikes are near.
Accident when crossing the road	Group to be instructed on follow safe procedures for crossing roads (Suntrap Line). No one to walk across the cattle grid.
Injury through falling & throwing	Climbing of trees and throwing sticks/stones prohibited.
Injury from collapsing shelter	Children will be instructed to not enter their shelter until a member of Suntrap staff has deemed it safe. Branches should not be added to the shelter while someone is inside.
Getting wet/cold	Clothing should be appropriate for weather conditions. i.e hat, coat and gloves. Wellies should be worn when walking through stream.
Soil borne disease	Children instructed not to put fingers in mouth during/after activities which include handling plants, soil and sticks. Hands should be washed with warm soapy water before eating lunch/snack.
Injury from picking up branches/sticks	Children instructed to do the following: Only lift heavy branches with 2 or more people, check they have adequate space before turning with long branches, do not take live branches off trees.
Risk of burns (if fire option is chosen)	Fires are to be lit under adult supervision. Once lit, children need to be behind a specified line for the duration of the session (supervised by school staff at all times). Water and a fire blanket are kept on hand to extinguish any fires that become unmanageable. First aid kits will include burn dressings.