



Quarrybrook

EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION CENTER

Program Title: **Primitive Shelter Building**

Audience: 5th grade students

Program Theme: A woodland environment provides the materials for a person to build a debris shelter, which can keep them warm and dry overnight.

Program Goal: Students will build a functional shelter with surrounding natural resources.

Next Generation/Common Core Connections:

Topic: 5-ESS3 Earth and Human Activity

Dimensions: Systems and System Models

Program Outline:

Activity 1: THE TEN ESSENTIALS (30 min.) – In partners, the students will create a list of ten essential items to include in one’s backpack when spending time in the wilderness. Each set of partners will share their list. As a group, we will finalize our ten items and discuss why each item belongs on the list.

Objective: Students will become aware of the essential items to bring with them for safe travel in the wilderness.

Activity 2: SHELTER BUILDING (60 min.) – As a group, we will brainstorm the characteristics of a functional shelter. We will discuss designs and materials to be used while remembering the importance of body temperature and sleep. Student sub-teams will be encouraged to create their own design, keeping in mind the essential characteristics required of an effective shelter. All materials will be harvested from the woods.



Teachers and chaperones will assist by monitoring safety procedures while teams gather materials and build their shelters.

Objective: Student teams will construct a shelter that would provide a night of comfortable sleep.

Conclusion/Wrap-up: (30 min.) Each team will present their shelter to the whole group, explaining their design and strategy. If a shelter is unable to be completed in the time available, students can describe the further steps to be taken.

Intended Outcomes: Student teams will build functional shelters, present their shelter to the whole group, and discuss successes and possible areas for improvement.

Successful completion of this program will help support your students' proficiency in NGSS

Performance Expectations:

5-ESS3.C Human Impacts on Earth Systems