

SEEKING SHELTER

In the new film **THE CALL OF THE WILD**, big hearted dog buck and his friend John spend many a night under the stars as Buck learns how to survive the treacherous terrain of the Canadian Yukon. Using the instructions below work as a team to build a shelter and if you're feeling brave, you too can spend a night outdoors with your fellow Scouts.

YOU WILL NEED:

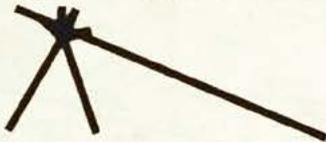
Access to trees, dead wood and other materials for shelter building.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

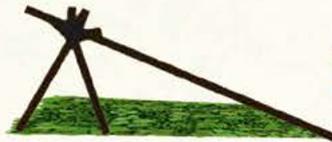
- Look around the area to make sure there are enough materials for shelter building, including trees and dead wood.
- Make sure that everyone knows not to wander too far when looking for materials, and to follow the countryside code.

START BUILDING YOUR SHELTER

1. In small teams work together to build a sturdy shelter big enough for you all to sleep inside for the night.
2. Set a time limit to finish the build. You could pretend that a storm will come in an hour, so the shelter will need to be finished by then.
3. Scavenge for building materials:
 - A solid shelter makes use of straighter branches as the main structure, while smaller branches can be woven into gaps to help provide cover.
 - Make use of natural features such as fallen trees, Y-shaped branches or rocks that might help provide extra cover or save time.
 - Branches can be tested by flexing them to ensure they're not rotten; rotten wood will flex or break under weight.
 - There's more information below to help you construct an A-frame shelter.



1. Build a framework with two Y-shaped sticks and a ridge pole.



2. Cover the ground with forest debris such as leaves to insulate you from the cold ground.



3. Lean sticks against the ridge pole to create a rib cage that will hold your cover.

4. Cover the structure with smaller branches that will help support your cover.



5. Layer forest debris on your shelter to insulate against the outside cold.



4. Check where you are building:
 - Don't build a shelter near ants or insect nests, or where there are animal trails.
 - Don't make a shelter where there are things above that could fall onto you, such as dead branches or rocks from a cliff face.
 - Set the entrance towards the east so the morning sun falls on you.
 - Protect the entrance from the wind by thinking about the position of the shelter in relation to the terrain and foliage.
 - Avoid building a shelter at the bottom of a hill or in a dip in the ground, as rain water may collect there.

SAFETY

Outdoor activities

You must have permission to use the location. Always check the weather forecast and inform parents and carers of any change in venue.

Poles and long objects

Be careful when moving poles or long items. Take care if the ends are sharp. Have appropriate supervision for this activity.

All activities must be safely managed. Do a [risk assessment](#) and take appropriate steps to reduce risk. Always get approval for the activity and have suitable [supervision](#) and an [InTouch](#) process.

FIND MORE ACTIVITIES LIKE THIS AT [SCOUTS.ORG.UK/ACTIVITIES](https://www.scouts.org.uk/activities)

THE CALL OF THE WILD

IN CINEMAS WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 19

