



North York Moors National Park

Stone Age day (Key stage 2)

This outdoor activity is based within the grounds of the visitor centre where children complete a series of tasks relating to trees and woodland.

Clan identity and the essence of trees: divided into small tribes, children use a map to explore the grounds to find their 'tribal tree' and discover how people used the trees in the Stone Age and how they are used now.



From past to present: children construct a timeline and explore how the landscape of the North York Moors has changed since the last ice age to the present day and the role of people in that process.

Build a camp and shelter: the tribes work together to build a shelter out of natural materials.

Fire lighting: children are shown fire making techniques using flints, fire steels and natural ignition material.

Age Range: KS2 (years 3 to 6)

Duration: 4 ½ hrs (e.g. 10:00am to 2:30pm including lunch)

Location: Danby Lodge National Park Centre

Main curriculum link

History

- life in the Stone Age & how the landscape in the North York Moors has changed since the Stone Age.

Key learning objectives

Children should learn...

History

- how the landscape has changed since the last ice age
- the impact of humans on the landscape
- the use of natural resources, past and present

Geography

how to use a simple map

Other skills involved

Team working, co-operation, delegation, observation skills, dexterity, design, practical problem solving, listening, responding, asking questions

Learning outcomes

All children will be able to:

- describe one way in which humans have changed the landscape since the last ice age
- identify at least one tree and recall its prehistoric and current use
- recall a way in which humans used natural resources during the Stone Age

Most children will be able to:

- describe how the post ice age landscape changed from trees to moorland through the actions of humans
- describe how humans used natural resources to make fire
- use a simple map to find their way

Some children will be able to:

explain the process of nettle string making

recount details from the book and relate them to the activities

Assessment for learning

We assess learning using a variety of techniques appropriate to the activity such as: questioning, questioning games, observing how well children are performing tasks, checking results, quizzes and feedback forms.

Ideas for extending learning before and after this activity

Look at trees in your school grounds and have a go at identifying some from their leaves.

Make a display about trees and how they are used by people.

Ask children to write instructions and / or draw diagrams to explain how to build a shelter or make string from nettles or light a fire safely.

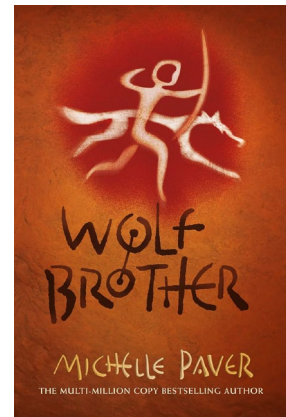
Make cave paintings on flat pieces of modelling clay. Paint a simple outline of an animal in black and then mix yellow, red and black to make an earthy colour to fill in the animal. Exaggerate the most striking features of the animal.

A Wolf Brother resource pack to support teachers can be from Outdoor & Woodland Learning Scotland's website <https://owlsotland.org/resources/wolf-brothers-wildwoods/>

Suggested books

Wolf Brother is the first in the Chronicles of Ancient Darkness by Michelle Paver, published by Orion Children's Books.

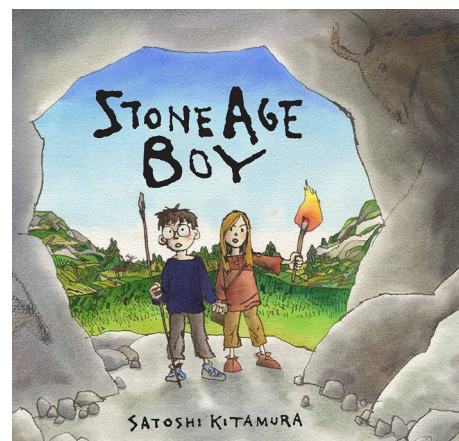
Imagine that the land is one dark forest. Its people are hunter-gatherers. They know every tree and herb and they know how to survive in a time of enchantment and powerful magic - until a malevolent force creates a demon, a demon so evil that it can be contained only in the body of a ferocious bear that slays everything it sees. Only one boy can stop it - 12 year old Torak, who has seen his father killed by the bear.



Torak is an unwilling hero. He is alone, wounded, scared and on the run. His only companion is a wolf cub whom he seems to understand better than any human. Theirs is a terrifying quest in a world of wolves, tree spirits and Hidden People, a world in which trusting a friend means risking your life.

Stone Age Boy by Satoshi Kitamura is published by Walker Books Ltd.

One day a little boy is walking along when he trips, stumbles and falls into the Stone Age! He meets a girl his own age and her tribe and learns all about their way of life. He watches them make tools, clothes and weapons. He sees how they hunt, fish, cook, celebrate – and even how they paint on the walls of caves. But when a furious cave bear attacks, he wakes up back in his own time where everyone tells him it was only a dream. But was it?



Further information

To find out more, make a booking or view other activities please visit our [Outdoor learning and school visits page](#).

You can contact the Outdoor Learning team on 01439 772751 or email outdoorlearning@northyorkmoors.org.uk