Session Outline

• Discuss the basics of what a shelter is and why we need one. (To protect from wind, rain, sun and predators.)
• Explain that shelters can be built from entirely natural materials.
• Show children a simple method such as a lean to shelter. (See Outdoor Skills: Lean-to Shelter)
• Explain that they are going to build a shelter, in groups, for a particular creature to use as a habitat. Discuss typical creatures in their outdoor environment and what their habitat would need.
• Build shelters together in your outdoor area, allowing lots of opportunities for experiential building and design.
• Encourage the children to think about safety when carrying branches/sticks and to risk assess their own shelters and to think about structural stability and suitability. Can they adapt and improve their designs as they work?

Differentiation:
HA- Can they describe the materials and methods they use and explain and adapt their design?
LA- Help with building.

Extension:
Can they name who their shelter may be for? Can they add extra features for their shelter? Can they use their shelters for role play? (You could link this shelter building activity to your current topic)