

# Outback Pioneers: a co-operative report on our tentipi project

Our project was to get a tentipi so we could have a winter camp where we would plan everything ourselves and sleep in the tentipi. We have all written a part of our report so you can see how our project went.

## Phoebe's report: preparing food and kit

We were split into groups to prepare the kit lists and food lists for dinner and the other meals at the weekend.

We started a kit list: we thought of all the activities and things we would need to provide on the kit list. On our kit list we had walking boots, trainers, waterproofs, warm clothes because we were sleeping outside, wash bag containing tooth brush etc., note pad and pen to amuse ourselves in free time, pyjamas hat and scarf etc.

We decided our dinners for the weekend such as pasta and bacon was our main meal with a tomato sauce, it was all really nice! We had bacon for breakfast because we had lots left over from the night before. All together it was really fun!

## Harriet's report: the tentipi itself

The new tent was bigger and therefore harder to put up, though it was worth it in the end as it was roomier and cleaner than the other two that we borrowed from Brighthelmstone.

The guy ropes were sturdy and held well and the outer material was good, strong and waterproof.

Over all it was a brilliant tent, and I would recommend it to anyone who loves camping and the countryside.

## Henry's account: on the way there

On the way to Cudham we stopped off at Blacklands farm to do activities we had chosen.

Once we were at Blacklands farm we split into 2 groups, one for archery and one for zip wire.

We then regrouped and each had a go on bungee trampoline (except one of us because he had hurt his ankle), they were all really good fun.

We then set off to Cudham.

## Charlotte's report: dinner and games

After we collected the fire wood we went into the kitchen to get some saucepans, we were going to start cooking. We sat down around the fire with our bacon, the pasta and the tomato sauce on a barbeque. At the fire we started to fry the bacon, first we put in some cooking oil, then we laid the bacon in the pan. The smoke kept on getting in our eyes. Afterwards we sat down and ate our delicious food!

We played the favourite Woodcraft game Lenin when it was dark at around 10pm on the Saturday night.

Everyone ran into the forest and hid in our own secret places. Once we were sure we were safe, we came out from hiding and slowly and quietly moved on to find the person who was Lenin.

Most of us did it secretly whilst others ran around in fluorescent coats screaming! Most of us teamed up into pairs to make it better but some decided to go solo. We had to dodge from the hostiles (grown ups with torches). If we got caught in the light we had to go back to camp. Joe assisted by Ashley won the game.

Lenin is a true favourite of Woodcraft.

## Jesse's Report: the rope swings

Cudham was amazingly good !!!

I've Got To Tell You About The Time When Me , Joe and Henry Kept nicking the swings and doing these amazingly cool crashes. We were on the rope swings for about an hour just doing these really fun and cool crashes . The rope swings were really good !

Of Course Every thing Else Was Fab Too

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### **Milly's report: lots of challenges but still a brilliant experience**

When we had to put the tent up we had no idea where to put it! We were trying every where it was either on a slope or really muddy but eventually we found a perfect spot, it was quite far from the others because we had the biggest tent!

When we had finished the tent we were all really excited because of the amount of room we had. All eager we put our stuff into the tent and laid our bedding out, as I was doing mine I realised I had no pillow so I had to share one with Phoebe, which I didn't mind.

After that we found out that the heating we were supposed to have we couldn't put together because the instructions weren't in English so we had to put our sleeping bags in bivvy bags to help us stay warm. When we first went to bed it was ok but when we tried to go to sleep it was freezing but that just shows how cold it can get at night!

Ironically we all woke up at 5:00 IN THE MORNING still freezing, but that was fine. The tent was brilliant but next time we have to work out the heating. Despite the cold the trip was still excellent!

### **Hannah's report : lots of people but still cold!**

I had a really good time in the tent, although some of us found it quite cold.

It was nice that so many of us could be in a tent together. We all had to help put the tent up and make sure we read the instructions.

I am looking forward to using it in the summer.

### **Millie C's report: no heating in the tent!**

Me and my group had been looking forward to Cudham for weeks on end. We were really excited about sleeping in the new tent and were extremely happy with the group that we were in.

We finally put the tent up. We were all so amazed by the size of it. We tried to put the heater that was supposed to go at the top of the tent but the instructions were in Swedish so we couldn't put it up. When we finally got settled down it got really cold. We all really wished we had the heater.

I was really happy with using the tent it was so much fun to sleep in. I am really looking forward to using it in the summer when it is a bit warmer.

### **Theo's report: a night in the tent.**

It was extra-ordinarily cold and we had to use these special bags that went over our sleeping bags called 'bivvy bags'.

I was sleeping in the boys' tent along with five other boys and there was plenty of room. The girls in the other tent were constantly fooling about outside. I was just really glad of my new wind up torch.

In the morning we decided that the tent worked perfectly well but the weather did not.

### **Joe and Theo's conclusion:**

Cudham was a great trip.

It was a quite unique woodcraft experience as none of us had ever slept in a tipi The tipis were very big but 7 boys in one all together were quite cramped plus a bit smelly. The beginning of the trip was very good as we spent the day at Blacklands farm, which is an adventure park. Cudham hostel was very good with rope swings and a wood at the bottom of a hill. Cooking the food was a fun experience as our meal was delicious. Staying in the tipis was a fun time as we were all running about in the middle of the night. In the morning we had a lovely breakfast and after that we were all very sad to leave.

We thank you for giving us the money for the teepee therefore letting us have a wonderful experience.