



# Using cord/rope risk assessment

Routine risk management protocols
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All members of Tyggwhistle staff have received first aid training.</li> <li>A fully stocked First Aid kit is maintained on site and transported into woodland during sessions.</li> <li>The ratio of children to one adult is never more than 6, for children under 8, or 10 for children over 8 years old.</li> <li>A laminated emergency procedure card is carried by all staff and posted on the wall of the indoor classroom.</li> </ul>
Description of the Activity
<p>Use of rope and cord: To secure shelters; To create ladders and makeshift props and; In creative play</p> <p><b>Benefits</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students learn to improvise and adapt their environment</li> <li>Students learn the function of knots and how to use them safely</li> <li>Students develop a portfolio of useful rope skills</li> </ul>

Risk Measurement guidance	
Likelihood x severity	
<b>Likelihood</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Only in extraordinary conditions</li> <li>2. Rarely</li> <li>3. Occasionally</li> <li>4. Often</li> <li>5. Every time activity is undertaken</li> </ul>	
<b>Severity</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reassurance but no intervention</li> <li>2. First aid required on site</li> <li>3. Non-emergency hospital visit</li> <li>4. Emergency hospitalisation</li> <li>5. Fatality</li> </ul>	
Responses to risk	
Score	Response
1-5	Acceptable risk
5-12	Acceptable risk with increased supervision and mitigation
12+	Unacceptable risk and should not be carried out without extensive mitigation

Hazard	Group at risk	Risk assessment			Activity specific control measures
		likelihood	severity	risk	
A participant trips over a taut or loose rope on the ground	All	5	1	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All groups receive specific instruction on correct formation of knots.</li> <li>Rope and cord is stored safely when not in use.</li> <li>Any knots which support weights of greater than 2 kg are checked by a forest school practitioner.</li> <li>personal protective equipment (gloves) and suitable clothing worn, where appropriate.</li> </ul>
A load bearing knot fails and something falls	All	3	2	6	
A load bearing knot fails and a person falls	All	2	5	10	
Strain to back, arm or shoulder muscle	All	3	1	3	
A rope user sustains rope burns	All	3	1	3	