

ROPE MAKING & KNOT TYING

EVENING ACTIVITY LESSON PLAN



WOLF RIDGESM
ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING CENTER

ROPES AND KNOTS



CLASS DESCRIPTION: A Traditional Skills and Crafts Class

Students will investigate how to make ropes and tie useful knots for their outdoor pursuits. The class will explore the history of rope making and materials used in rope making. Then students will create rope using hand winders in small groups. Afterwards they will use the rope they create to learn to tie basic knots.

Total time: 1.5 hours, can be taught in or outdoors

Audience: 6-20 students, 4th grade through adult

Activity level: low

Travel: none

OBJECTIVE:

To learn the skill of making rope and tying knots for use in outdoor recreation and living.

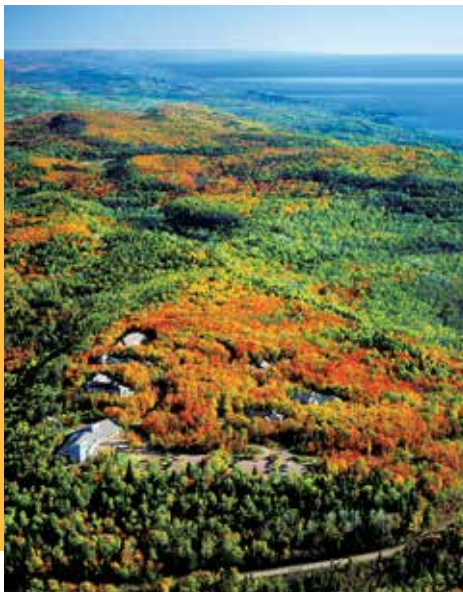
CONCEPTS:

- Human cultures worldwide have used plant and animal material to create ropes and systems for tying things together
- A simple rope can be created by twisting twine and using a rope winder
- Knots are useful in daily life and outdoor recreation, knowing knots for different situations is an enjoyable and technical skill

OUTCOMES:

Upon completion of the Rope Making and Knot Tying class students will be able to:

1. List situations in which rope and knots are useful or essential.
2. Create rope using a twist and wrap method.
3. Complete overhand knot, slip knot, square knot, bowline, clove hitch, and taut-line hitch.



Our mission is to develop a citizenry that has the knowledge, skills, motivation and commitment to act together for a quality environment.

6282 Cranberry Road | Finland, MN 55603-9700 | www.wolf-ridge.org

Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center and the USDA are equal opportunity providers and employers.



Equipment

Classroom Equipment:

- 5 winding dowels
- 5 stationary dowels
- rope making sheets
- laminated knot how-to sheets
- laminated knot relay sheets
- scissors
- spool of twine
- spool of string
- 24' paracord for twine measuring

Appendices

- Glossary
- References
- Knot Reference Cards
- Knot Situation Cards

Set-up (10 min.)

- Classroom/class prep description
- Safety Management

I. Introduction (5 min.)

- Greet
- Class Overview
- Assess Learner Level

II. Making Rope (30 min.)

- A. History of rope making
- B. What makes strong rope?
- C. Twine into rope

III. Knots (30 min.)

IV. Knot races (20 min.)

V. Conclusion & Clean Up (5 min.)