



Learning Topic: Knots, Gadgets & Pioneering

In this Learning Topic, you could

- Learn the ropes and get all tied up
- Build a bridge... or a gateway, chariot or camp gadget
- Share your knowledge with Guides and other Leaders

Suggested Activities

Ropes and equipment

Learn about different ropes, spars and other equipment and the best equipment for your projects:

- Different fibres e.g. natural and synthetic
- Properties of ropes e.g. static or dynamic, breaking strength, safe working loads
- Choice of different types of spars and ropes for a range of applications
- Care and storage of spars, ropes and gadget cord
- How to coil rope
- Care and maintenance of structures over the period of use

Knots

Learn to tie and use knots and lashings. It may help you to learn some rope and knot terminology. Some suggested knots and lashings are:

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|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Reef knot | • Packers knot | • Sheep shank |
| • Sheet bend | • Fisherman's knot | • Truckie's hitch |
| • Clove hitch | • Bowline, bowline on a bight | • Marlin spike hitch |
| • Round turn and two hitches | • Square lashing | • Highwayman's hitch |
| • Rolling hitch (tautline hitch, marquee hitch) | • Diagonal lashing | • Back splice |
| • Figure of eight | • Sheer lashing | • Eye splice |
| • Overhand knot | • Snake lashing | • Whipping |
| | • Tripod lashing | • West country whipping |

Teach knots and lashings to Guides and other Leaders. What resources and techniques can you use?

Projects

A variety of knotty projects are listed below. How many will you try? (Don't forget to consider the risks and the environmental impact)

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|---|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Whip, fuse or splice the ends of a rope | • lanyard | • rotary clothes line | • transporter |
| • 'knot man' toy | • decorative articles | • bedding gadget | • commando bridge |
| • camp flag pole | • throw a weighted rope | • table gadget | • monkey bridge |
| • clothes line | • plate bag holder | • tie down a loaded trailer | • trestle bridge |
| • bedding roll | • lantern holder | • shelter | • raft |
| • towel rack | • string bag | • chariot | • camp gateway |
| • parcel tying | • coil mat | • swing bridge | • catapult |
| • 'donkey' toy | • friendship bracelet or other jewellery | • tree house | • seesaw |
| • woggle | • tripod | • ballista | • merry-go-round (hurdy gurdy) |



Suggested Activities (con't)

How will you minimize environmental impact during these activities?

How will you manage risk when using ropes and spars, building bridges, towers and other load-bearing structures? (Don't forget to document your risk mitigation strategies on GGA forms)

Resources to help you

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GGA Guide Handbook 1 page 40 • GGA Guide Handbook 2 pages 43-45 • GGA Guide Handbook 3 pages 32, 42, 45-48, 73 • GGA Guide Handbook 4 pages 42-46 • GGA Guide Handbook 5 pages 38-41 • GGA Leader's Handbook pages 64-65, 86 • GGA 100 Downunder Activity Pack • Knotting App Review by Nellie Mair (GG Vic) • Attend a training workshop | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tying it all together
http://www.youtube.com/user/TyingItAllTogether • Animated Knots
http://www.animatedknots.com/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com • Scouting knot games
http://whatknot.tripod.com/knots/knotgame.htm • Some tips on teaching knots
http://www.cubpack2.org/forms/leaders/TeachingandHavingFunwithKnots.pdf • Knotting Games
https://www.girlscoutsw.org/current-volunteers/volunteer-learning/Outdoor%20Series/KnotTyingGames.pdf |
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Record your Learning

What have you learned and how did you apply it in your Guiding role?

Record this in your Learning Log.



Girl Guides Australia