

PLAY STRUCTURES AND TREE HOUSES

ONE OR TWO DAY WORKSHOP

ESSENTIAL INFO:

- 🌲 **Date:** Weds 22nd & Thurs 23rd April 2020
- 🌲 **Location:** Outrageous Woods, West Acre Estate
- 🌲 **Time:** 9.00am – 4.30pm each day
- 🌲 **Cost:** £160* both days, £95* day 1 only
- 🌲 **Maximum Group Size:** 16 people
- 🌲 **Course Tutor:** Jon Cree

**FSA Norfolk members may be eligible to a discount please use your discount code when booking*



WHO IS THE COURSE FOR:

Anyone working with children who wishes to be a little more adventurous with creative play structures at their sites, building them out of wood and rope and combining these with the natural features at your site.

Suitable for: Forest School leaders, bushcraft instructors, outdoor educators, play workers and enthusiastic parents with experience of tool use (i.e. sawing) and knot tying.

WHAT WILL THE WORKSHOP COVER:

We will be sharing techniques and know-how on building safe but slightly risky (!) structures with children that can enhance creativity and physical play at your forest school site. We will be looking at techniques for making:

- 🌲 Rope swings, rope bridges, rope crawls and rope walks
- 🌲 Combining wood with rope including simple rope ladders and tree houses
- 🌲 Making free standing wooden structures such as ladders and sculptures to climb on

Including tips on:

- 🌲 How to minimise impact of structures on Forest school sites
- 🌲 Keeping within the health and safety guidelines for safe construction and use of natural structures



Participants can choose to attend either both days or just Day 1.

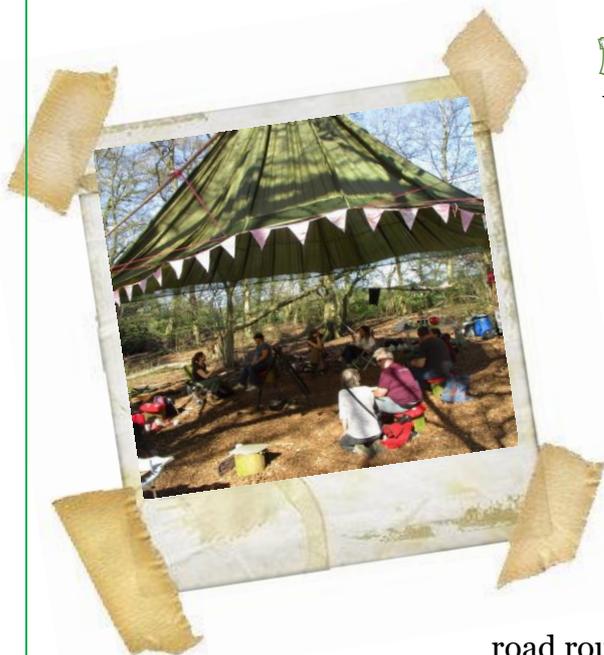
Day 1

This is an 'introductory day' looking at basic tool work, knot and rope work in order to construct ladders, 'climbing frames', temporary rope swings and rope courses. We will look at how to work with young people in constructing basic structures that includes working with trees or if the trees in your own settings are limited how to construct features by adding structures such as 'beams' to trees and working with A frames and 'safe anchoring'. This day will also start looking at the basics of constructing a tree house.

Day 2

This day will give time to practise the knots and skills picked up on Day 1 including constructing free standing play structures, playing with ropes and trees, making more elaborate rope courses and going through the whole process of constructing a tree house. We will also cover putting up and playing with strap-lines.

Both days will cover all the health and safety aspects of working with 'constructed' play structures and ropes, looking at risk benefit assessments and key requirements.



DOMESTICS & CATERING:



We will be spending the days in our new woodland camp area. Please be aware that we have no indoor space so will be outside all day. Please ensure you bring appropriate outdoor clothing to be comfortable. We have a woodland shelter to use in wet weather and the campfire is always burning! Hot drinks, and refreshments will be provided throughout the day but please bring a packed lunch.

VENUE INFORMATION:

We are lucky enough to be allowed to play in our woodland site by the kind permission of the Birkebeck family. It is easily accessible from main road routes.

Address – Outrageous Nature Woodland, West Acre Estate, B1153, just off the A47 (about 15 mins west from Swaffham). Please look out for directions and map in pre-course information.



ABOUT THE COURSE LEADER:

Jon Cree is a rare creature usually found rummaging around his natural habitat of the woods, paddling in his canoe or hibernating in a hammock. He is easily identified by his charismatic hats, giggly infectious laugh and a slightly squeaky voice when excited.

Being a social creature he is at his best when in company and is a long time earth educator, Forest School leader, storyteller and environmental trainer. He has been 'playing' with numerous groups over the last 40 years, most recently in his role at local authority centres – for the last 20 years he has been based at Worcestershire's flagship centre – Bishops Wood. He is now is technically retired but still can be tempted out to the woods to play!

ABOUT THE OUTRAGEOUS NATURE COMPANY:

The Outrageous Nature Company is a new Community Interest Company that helps get the ball rolling for people to be out together playing in nature. You can follow us on Facebook (search for the Outrageous Nature Company and look for the dung beetle logo!) or check out our (partially completed!) website.

www.outrageousnature.com

BOOKINGS & PAYMENT:

Please fill in the online booking form found on our website here - www.outrageousnature.com/events-courses Please make sure that you have taken a look at our terms and conditions before booking. Your booking will be confirmed via email and pre-course information sent nearer the course start date. An invoice with payment instructions will be sent to you upon booking.

