

Core Skills Analysis

Science

- The student learned about the natural environment and ecosystem while collecting sticks and leaves.
- Through building the den, they explored concepts of shelter and habitats of animals.
- They understood the importance of balance and structure in construction while making the den.
- The activity encouraged observation and inquiry skills as they examined different types of leaves and sticks.

Tips

To further enhance the learning experience from den building with sticks and leaves, encourage the 5-year-old to create different types of shelters using various natural materials. Additionally, discussing the different animals that might use such dens can deepen their understanding of habitats and ecosystems. Encourage them to draw and label their creations, reinforcing their cognitive skills and creativity.

Book Recommendations

- [Nuts to You](#) by Lynne Rae Perkins: A squirrel's adventurous journey teaches lessons on friendship and survival, perfect for nature-loving children.
- [We Planted a Tree](#) by Diane Muldrow: Celebrates the importance of trees in our world and the impact of taking care of our environment, introducing young readers to conservation concepts.
- [The Tiny Seed](#) by Eric Carle: Follows the journey of a tiny seed as it grows into a blooming flower, introducing children to the magic of nature and growth.