













Camping









WEEK 1 CAMPSITE CHALLENGE

STEAM STATION	YOUR SUPPLIES	BIG QUESTION AND INSPIRATION PHOTOS	TEACHER TIPS
<p>LESSON 1 Heavy Backpack PD 1 Gross Motor SED 4a Problem-Solving</p>	<p>Backpacks Heavy objects Obstacle course items Timer Paper Marker</p>	<p>What do you carry in a backpack?</p> 	<p>Set up an obstacle course where children crawl under, jump over and balance on objects. Fill backpacks with books or other heavy items. Invite the children to wear a backpack and complete the course while you track their times. Ask, "Can you improve your time?" and repeat.</p>
<p>LESSON 2 Setting Up Camp CA 4b Drama ATL 1a Attention & Persistence</p>	<p>Paper Rocks Cardstock or cardboard</p>	<p>Can you make a campsite?</p> 	<p>Set out green and blue paper, small rocks and thick half sheets of paper in the block area. Encourage the children to set up a campsite with the materials. Fold the paper in half to create tents and put them in the campsite.</p>
<p>LESSON 3 Stuffing Pillows PD 2 Fine Motor ATL 1b Attention & Persistence</p>	<p>Paper Hole punch Yarn Scissors Pillow stuffing material Nature items (optional)</p>	<p>What do you think makes a good pillow?</p> 	<p>Set out sheets of paper, a hole punch, yarn, scissors and pillow stuffing material. Encourage the children to cut two identical shapes out of paper, hole punch around the edges and sew them together with yarn (leave a small opening for stuffing before tying the yarn ends together).</p>
<p>LESSON 4 Stories by the Fire SCI 4 Technology LLD 5 Concepts of Print</p>	<p>Rocks Cardboard tubes Tissue paper Flashlights or battery-operated tea lights Books</p>	<p>What kind of books would be good to read at a campfire?</p> 	<p>Set up a campfire by making a circle with rocks. Add cardboard tube "logs" and use red/orange/yellow tissue paper as flames. Place flashlights or battery-operated tea lights in the campfire. Set out books for the children to look through while sitting at the campfire.</p>
<p>LESSON 5 Guitar Strings & Things CA 1a Music SCI 3b Physical Science</p>	<p>Plastic and/or cardboard containers Rubber bands Nature items Tape Scissors</p>	<p>What kind of instrument can you create?</p> 	<p>Set out a variety of materials and nature items. Invite the children to explore creating musical instruments with the materials.</p>






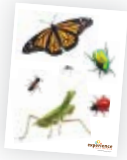




WEEK 2 IN THE NIGHT

<p>LESSON 6 Curious Raccoons ATL 1a Attention & Persistence SCI 2a Natural & Earth Science</p>	<p>Buckets and boxes Toy</p>	<p>Where is the best place for raccoons to find food in the forest?</p> 	<p>Set out a variety of buckets and boxes in the outdoor area. Place a toy under one of the containers, then encourage the children to look under each container until someone finds the special hidden item. Invite the children to close their eyes while you hide it again.</p>
<p>LESSON 7 Light Designs SCI 4 Technology</p>	<p>Construction paper Pencils Flashlights</p>	<p>What kind of constellation will you create?</p> 	<p>Set out black construction paper, pencils and flashlights. Invite the children to explore poking holes in the paper and creating different designs. Shine the flashlights through them to reveal new "constellations."</p>
<p>LESSON 8 Pitch a Tent CA 4a Drama SED 3c Social Relationships</p>	<p>Blanket or sheet Books Flashlights</p>	<p>What do you think is fun about playing in a tent?</p> 	<p>Set out a blanket or sheet. Invite the children to work together to make a tent, then use it for dramatic play or as a cozy space to look at books with flashlights.</p>
<p>LESSON 9 Moon Craters SCI 3b Physical Science PD 2 Fine Motor</p>	<p>Playdough Stamping tools</p>	<p>Why do you think the moon looks darker in some spots?</p> 	<p>Set out playdough and a variety of stamping tools (e.g., fork, blocks, wheeled toys, beads) for the children to press into the dough.</p>
<p>LESSON 10 Bear Den SCI 2a Natural & Earth Science CA 4a Drama</p>	<p>Boxes Bowls of nature items Bear figurines or teddy bears</p>	<p>Where might you see a bear den?</p> 	<p>Set out different-sized boxes and bowls of nature items in the block area. Set out bear figurines or teddy bears, if available. Encourage the children to construct a bear den or cave with the materials.</p>

WEEK 3 HAPPY TRAILS

STEAM STATION	YOUR SUPPLIES	BIG QUESTION AND INSPIRATION PHOTOS	TEACHER TIPS
LESSON 11 Constructing Trails <small>M 2b Spatial Awareness SS 3a Geography</small>	Nature items		Set out nature items, such as rocks, sticks, pinecones and leaves, or encourage the children to gather the items from outside. Invite the children to build a trail using those items.
LESSON 12 Fancy Trees <small>SCI 1a & SCI 1b Investigation & Inquiry</small>	Pinecones Tweezers Magnifying glasses Bowl of water Paper Markers/ crayons Timer	 	Set out some pinecones with tools for investigating them. Invite the children to explore the pinecones, then place a few in a bowl of cold water. Set a timer for 15-minute intervals for the children to check the pinecones and record any changes. Continue until the pinecones have closed.
LESSON 13 Bike Path <small>SS 3a Geography SCI 3a Physical Science</small>	Strips of paper Sticks Rocks Wheeled toys	 	Set out strips of paper, sticks, rocks and wheeled toys in the block area. Encourage the children to arrange the strips to create a bike path. Place rocks, sticks and blocks on the path to create obstacles.
LESSON 14 Nature Hike <small>SCI 2b Natural & Earth Science</small>	Paper Marker		Invite the children to discuss things they might see on a hike, then create a chart of their ideas (birds, squirrels, mushrooms or leaves, for example). Invite the children to “hike” around the outdoor area and add a checkmark to the chart each time one of the items is spotted.
LESSON 15 Mushroom Field <small>SCI 2a Natural & Earth Science CA 3b Visual Arts</small>	Playdough Nature items	 	Set out playdough and nature items, like sticks, pebbles, grass or leaves. Invite the children to use the materials to build and decorate a mushroom field.

WEEK 4 DOWN THE RIVER

LESSON 16 Making Rivers <small>SS 3a Geography SCI 2a Natural & Earth Science</small>	Bin of dirt or sand Rocks Sticks Shovels Pitcher of water	 	Set out a bin of dirt or sand, rocks, sticks, shovels and a pitcher of water. Invite the children to use the items to dig out and build rivers in the bin. Explore pouring water to make the rivers flow.
LESSON 17 Constructing a Canoe <small>M 2a Spatial Awareness</small>	Masking tape Boxes Cardboard tubes Paper cups	 	Put masking tape pieces on the floor to create a simple boat shape. Invite the children to build on the tape lines. Set out a variety of building materials (e.g., cardboard boxes/tubes or paper cups) in the block area.
LESSON 18 Bug Book & Design <small>CA 3a Visual Arts SCI 2a Natural & Earth Science</small>	Tray Paper Playdough Small items Stapler Crayons/markers	 	Set out a tray of playdough and a variety of small items to create a forest bug. Fold and staple paper to make blank books for the children to draw their designs and make a “bug book.”
LESSON 19 Fishing Trip <small>SCI 2b Natural & Earth Science CA 4a Drama</small>	Fishing props Weather gear Laundry baskets	 	Set out hats, poles, vests, rain jackets, mittens, baskets, buckets and other props. Invite the children to pretend to go on a fishing trip during different types of weather. Set out large laundry baskets for the children to use as boats.
LESSON 20 Colors in Bubbles <small>SCI 3b Physical Science SCI 1b Investigation & Inquiry</small>	Shallow dish Bubble soap Bubble wands Pipecleaners (optional)	 	Set out a shallow dish and pour bubble soap in. Put out a variety of bubble wands or encourage the children to create their own with pipecleaners.

Set-Up Directions

These open-ended STEAM stations invite the children to investigate, problem-solve and create.

- Hang the Big Question and Inspiration Photos on the wall next to the place you set up the investigation.
- Use the labels to identify and organize materials children will use (and clean up) as they explore STEAM stations.

ROTATING YOUR STATIONS

- Introduce one new STEAM station daily. Leave that station set up all week. By the end of the week, children will have five stations to explore.




STEAM STATIONS

STEAM stations integrate perfectly with the monthly Experience Preschool Curriculum kits for a comprehensive research-based early learning system. Learn more and start your research-based curriculum today.

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**What do you
carry in
a backpack?**



**Can you make
a campsite?**



**What do you
think makes
a good pillow?**



**What kind
of books would
be good to read
at a campfire?**




**What kind
of instrument
can you create?**




**Where is
the best place
for raccoons to find
food in the forest?**



**What kind
of constellation
will you create?**



**What do you
think is fun
about playing
in a tent?**




**Why do you
think the moon
looks darker
in some spots?**




**Where might you
see a bear den?**




**What is
the best part
of walking along
a nature trail?**



**What are
the parts
of a pinecone?**



**Would you like
to bike around
a mountain or
along a river? Why?**



**What is the most
unusual thing
you've seen
on a hike?**



**Why do you
think mushrooms
often grow
in clusters?**




**Why do you
think rivers
keep flowing?**



**How will you
use the materials
to build a canoe?**



**What kind
of bugs will
appear in
your book?**



**How can you
go fishing in
different types
of weather?**



**What do you
think makes
bubbles float?**




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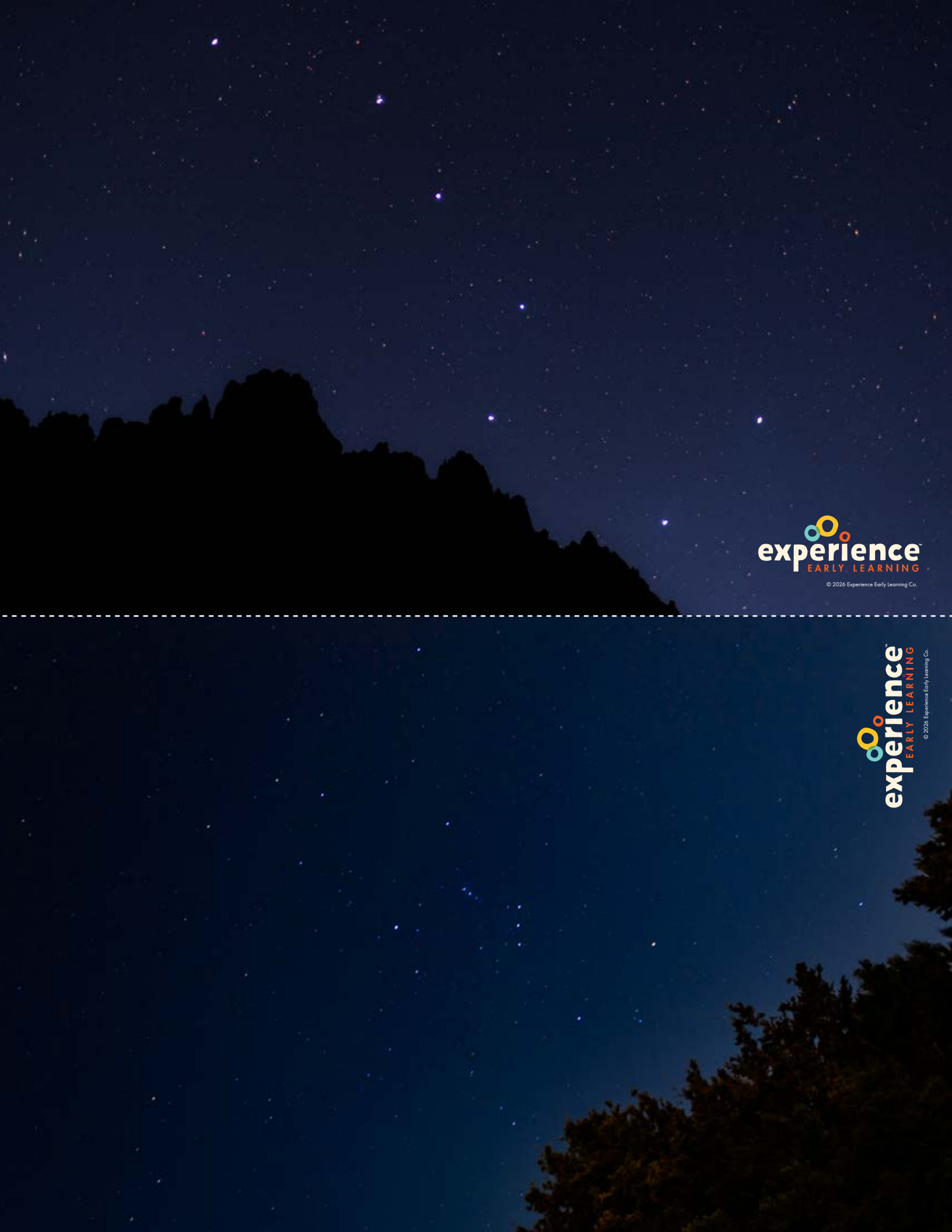
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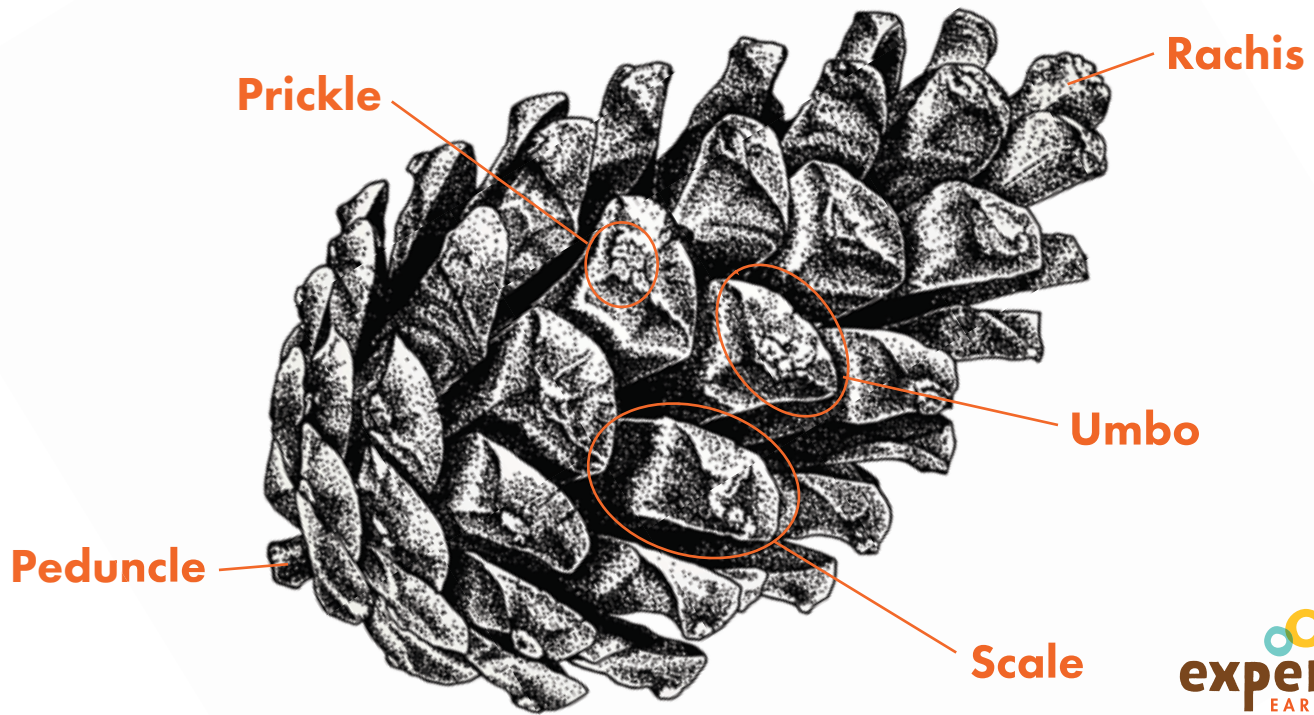



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Parts of a Pinecone






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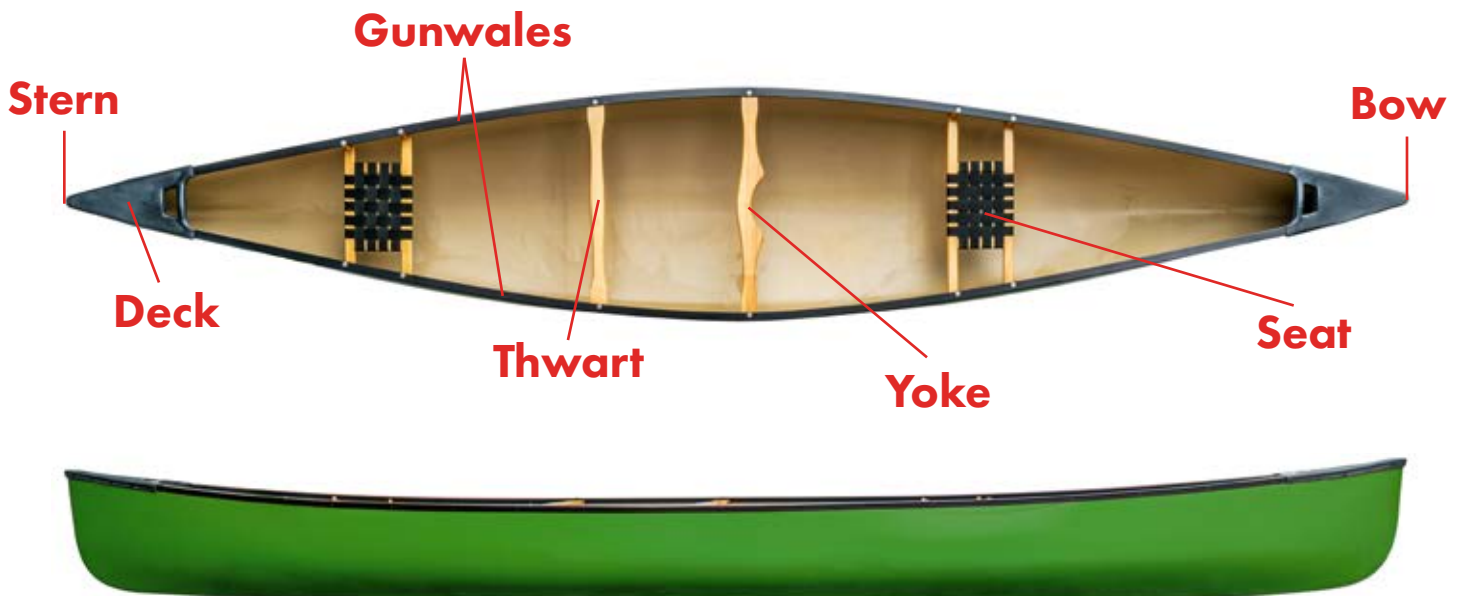

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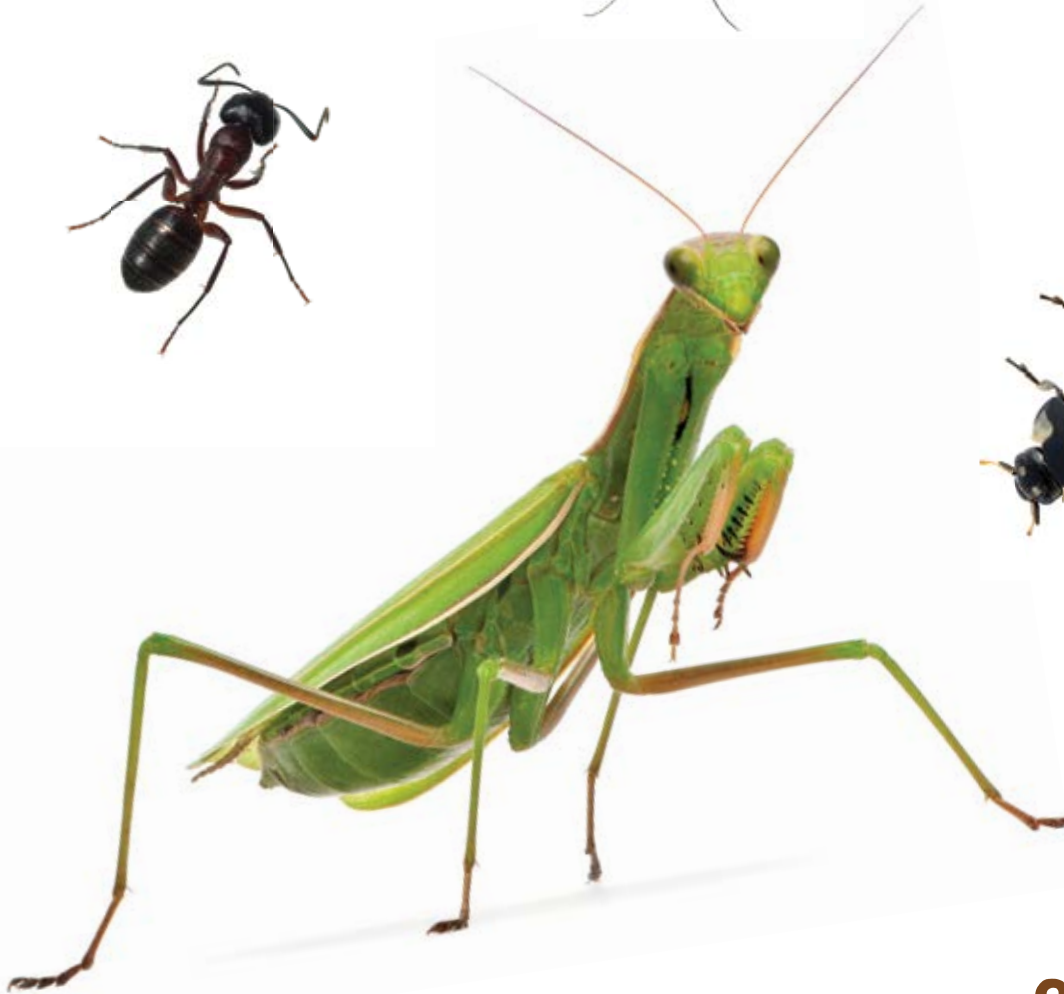

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Parts of a Canoe






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