

**Activity:** Make a Stickman

**Kit needed:** Sticks, secateurs, string, scissors

**Group/ family size:** 2+

**Age Group:** 2+

**Time:** 20 minutes+

**Location:** Garden, park, woods

**Learning about:** Knots, safe tool use, choosing materials



**Instructions:** First find your stick. If you're really lucky, you may find a stick that already looks exactly like stick man – you may need to cut a few bits off. If you don't find a ready-grown stickman, try to find a stick with a fork in it, which will be the legs. The stick may have another twig that could look like a nose. Use sticks from the ground rather than cutting them off trees.

Use the secateurs to cut it to the size you want. With younger children, adults may prefer to do this for them but older children can be taught how to use secateurs, safely, whilst being supervised. Then find another stick to make the arms, cut it to the right length and tie onto the first stick at right angles. Make sure your string is long enough to go around the join a few times, in different directions. If you find a stick with a bend it will fit well against the body – and you may find one with a hand.

Stickman is now ready to play.

**Additional comments:** Encourage your children's creativity by using stickman to make up games. For example, he can be dressed with leaves, have eyes drawn on or have a home built for him. You could even have a whole stick family.

Avoid private property/land unless you have the landowner's permission.

Be careful not to disturb wildlife or destroy habitats.

Watch out for stinging insects, brambles and nettles