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Opening extract from

The Stick Book

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THE stick book

loads of things you can make or do with a stick

fiona danks and jo schofield

For Connie, Dan, Edward, Hannah and Jake

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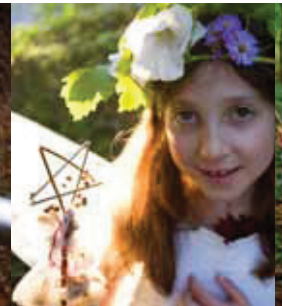

PROJECT

01

share the magic of a fire

NEVER make a fire without grown-ups present. Always follow the fire safety guidelines on page 124 .

- It's usually best to make your fire in a metal pan (a dustbin lid, hubcap or old wok), to keep it confined. Put the pan on rocks, wood or metal legs to avoid scorching the ground. If you make a fire on the ground, clear away leaf litter or cut out turf to give a base of bare soil.
- Collect tinder (dry fine material such as dried bracken or fluffy seeds) along with dead, dry twigs and sticks; this helps to get the fire going. Make a tepee of twigs as described below.
- The kindling tepee will eventually collapse. Let it form a hot bed of embers for cooking on or build it up again for warmth.
- Let the fire burn out. When it's completely cold, cover or remove the ash. Leave the site exactly as you found it.

Build a tepee of little twigs (kindling) over a bundle of tinder. Strike a match as close to the tinder as possible. When the tinder starts burning, add twigs, and then larger sticks as the fire builds.