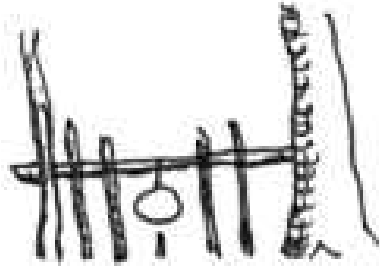


Step Outdoors

Rabbit Snare. Create a funnel on a known rabbit run by breaking small branches to form a fence or a V formation on either side of the trail. Cut a piece of snare wire approximately three feet in length.



Create a small figure 8 at one end of the snare wire and fold the eight in on itself creating a double thickness O. Pass the free end of the wire back through the O forming a loop approximately the size of your wrist. If the loop is too small the rabbits head will not fit in and if it is too large you will catch the animal by the midsection. Suspend the loop a few centimeters off of the ground in the middle of the fenced section of the run. Firmly tie the other end of the wire to a tree or a stake that had been firmly secured in the ground. Leave the area and return the next day to check the snare.

Traps:

Deadfall traps are made by propping heavy rocks or logs off the ground with a light trigger holding them up. The animal either knocks or chews the trigger to set the trap off. It is best to set traps where animals travel or feed but they shouldn't be too obvious. Deadfalls should be twice to three times the weight of the animal being trapped. Constructing the traps requires some ability with a knife and safe knife handling instructions should be followed.

There is a risk that the trap could be accidentally triggered while working on it so hands should be kept out of the fall path of the deadfalls. To be effective deadfalls should be made on hard ground or a rocky surface.

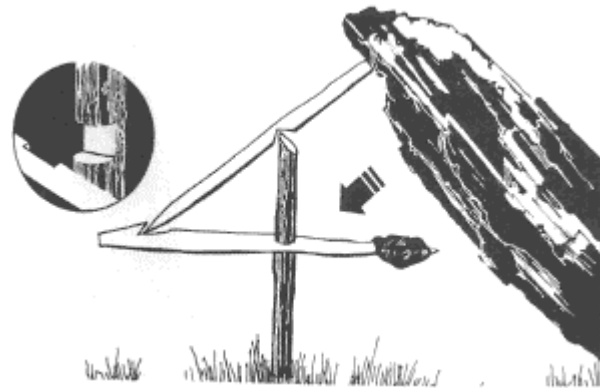


Figure 4 Deadfall Trap

FIGURE 4 DEADFALL: A simple and effective deadfall trap can be made to any size. A horizontal bait bar is balanced at right angles to an upright with a lock bar, which supports a rock or other heavy weight pivoting around the tip of the upright.

Step Outdoors

ACTIVITY

Take the participants on a wilderness hike to search for locations in which to set up a snare and trap. Ensure the group understands that in most areas it is illegal to set traps and snares unless they are in a survival situation. Look for animal signs and trails and have the group decide on the appropriate locations to construct a snare and a trap. Dismantle the projects after they have finished the so that pets and small children will not be injured as a result of traps being left unattended.

In order to trap any animal you should possess a *Trappers License* available at your Conservation office.

REFERENCE

Rabbit Snare website: www.m4040.com

Traps website: www.wilderness-survival-skills.com