



Learn The Ropes Course

Adventure Tree's Learn The Ropes Course teaches you how to safely and effectively climb trees on your own. You'll learn the fundamental tree climbing method: *Double Rope Technique* (DRT) that is used by professional tree workers, canopy researchers and recreational climbers alike. In addition, you will learn advanced climbing techniques such as *positioning lanyard* and *split tail*, which go beyond what is typically taught in tree climbing courses. You'll learn about the gear required for climbing, how to assess a tree, emplacing and advancing the climbing rope, and the procedures and practices that make for a safe, successful and enjoyable tree climb.

The Learn The Ropes Course encompasses 16 - 18 hours of instruction over 2 days. All student gear is provided; bring your own gear if you have it. Our teaching trees are each located within easy access to necessary facilities such as parking, indoor spaces, drinking water and bathrooms. Students need to provide their own meals and lodging.

Outline for the course:

- 1) Introductory Tree Climb
 - a. Fundamental safety practices
 - b. Learn tree climbing basics and get to know the gear.
- 2) Choosing a Tree and Preparing to Climb
 - a. Tree characteristics
 - b. Location and conditions
 - c. Planning the climb
- 3) Tree Assessment
 - a. 4 zones for tree inspection – what to look for
 - b. Tree species
 - c. Wild trees vs. tame trees
- 4) Climbing Gear
 - a. Strength ratings and correct usage of equipment
 - b. Inspection and maintenance
 - c. Tree climbing gear – saddle, helmet, rope, connectors, etc.
 - d. Throw line and throw weights
 - e. Choosing the right gear for you



- 5) The Climbing System
 - a. Tying the Blake's Hitch climbing system
 - b. Positioning lanyard
 - c. Utility knots
- 6) Emplacing the Rope
 - a. Throw line techniques
 - b. Isolating the line
 - c. Pulling up the climbing rope and cambium saver
 - d. Throwing knots
- 7) Tree Climbing Techniques
 - a. Double Rope Technique (DRT)
 - b. Advancing the rope
 - c. Positioning lanyard transitions
 - d. BACK check
 - e. Body thrust technique
 - f. Advanced climbing using a split-tail
- 8) Student Assessment and Test



We will climb multiple times during the course to give students ample opportunity to practice and master the techniques. There is training throughout the course on safety procedures as well as gear usage, knot tying and other essential practices.

Adventure Tree

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