

# The Shadow of Talleystick Valley

## Practitioner Activity sheet Guidance

P4.1



### BEST-LAID PLANS

#### Required Material:

- ▶ Best-Laid Plans Activity Sheet
- ▶ Pens / Pencils
- ▶ Instead of filling in the activity sheet you could make paper chains for each element and build a chain from “what I want” to “goal”.

#### Outcome:

- ▶ I understand that even if I plan carefully for something, things can go wrong.
- ▶ I understand the importance of planning for the worst and have a contingency in place for my goals.

#### STARTING ACTIVITY (5mins)

**INITIAL DISCUSSION** – Together talk about times when our plans have fallen through. Ask the children to share how this made them feel.

#### MAIN TOPIC (10mins)

Introduce the children to the term “best laid plans of mice and men”. Tell the children that this line is used in reference to the fact that no matter how well we plan for something, there is still a chance that something may go wrong.

Have the children think back to the group discussion about times when things didn’t exactly go to plan, and what they could have done to avoid the situation or plan for the worst case scenario.

Highlight the term “worst case scenario” and tell the children that whilst we usually just plan for the ideal scenario or what we want to happen, it can be helpful to also plan for the worst. Because then if it does happen, at least we are prepared.

#### MAIN TASK (15mins)

Tell the children that we will be writing out a plan

for something that we want to happen. This could be something we want to do over the weekend, or a lifelong ambition.

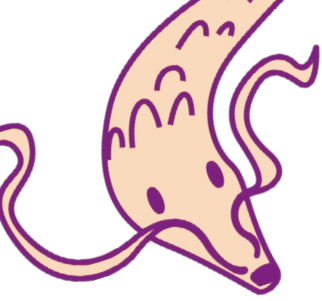
Now introduce the word “contingency” and how this is a back up plan that we can put in place should we not be able to get exactly what we planned for, just like Millie and Theo with their plan.

It can be hard to think about a worst case scenario, or not achieving our goals. However, planning for this happening means we can use a ‘plan B’ to continue on to our desired goal, or enact our contingency plan, which consists of an alternative achievement or goal.

Using the Best-Laid Plans template, have the children take their plan and think of a best and worst case scenario, a ‘plan B’ as well as a contingency. Tell them they can use this template for all their big plans.

#### PLENARY (2mins)

**CLOSING DISCUSSION** – Ask for volunteers to share their plans and explain their ‘plan B’ and contingency.



# The Shadow of Talleystick Valley

## Children's Activity Sheet P4.1

### BEST-LAID PLANS

Think of something you would like to make a plan of, such as something you want to do at the weekend, or a lifelong ambition. Now use this template to think of the best case scenario, the worst case scenario and what

your plan B is for this to still achieve your goal, as well as a contingency plan, which will be your backup if you cannot reach your primary goal.

