

## BUILD A BUTTERBEAN TENT

### CREATE A CHILD'S SPECIAL SUMMERHOUSE OF GREENERY

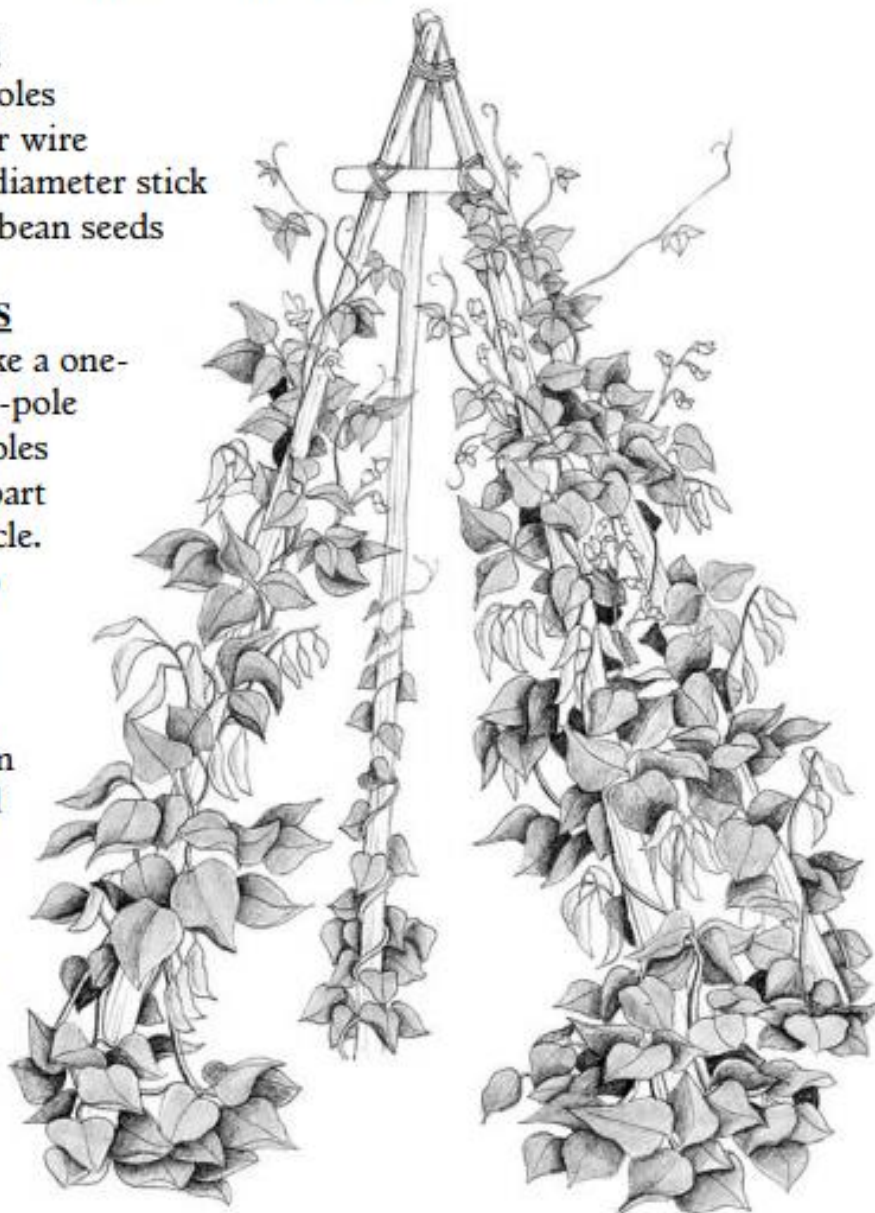
**L**ucky the child who can remember hiding out in a tent formed by bean vines and their poles! The buzzing warmth of a summer day, the small secret place, and the green of the sheltering vines blend in memories of that dreamlike world where days were long and summers endless. Here's how to treat your youngsters to the same adventure.

#### MATERIALS

Three poles  
Twine or wire  
1-inch-diameter stick  
15 pole bean seeds

#### DIRECTIONS

1. To make a one-person, three-pole tent, space poles 3-to 4 feet apart to form a circle. Allow a 2- to 3-foot gap between two poles for a doorway. Ram the thick end of each pole about 12 inches into the ground.



*Children of all ages will love this shady, secret hideout.*

2. Tie or wire the top ends of the poles together.
3. Tie the 1-inch-diameter stick horizontally, a little lower than head height, between the two doorway poles.
4. Plant five pole bean seeds at the bottom of each pole. Or, instead of traditional pole beans, you can try morning glories, climbing nasturtiums, moon vine, gourds, scarlet runner beans, or a mixture. If the seeds are planted in spring, the vines will form a leafy canopy by midsummer.

---

## A Hideout Built for Two— or More!

To make a roomier hideout that costs much less than a wooden playhouse, set poles in the ground in either a circular or a rectangular shape. (For a 5 X 7-foot structure, you'll need about 18 poles.) Place two of them a bit farther apart than the others to form a doorway space. Then, wire or staple wire-mesh poultry netting to the poles to form the walls of the structure, leaving space for the doorway. If you want a roof, tie strings across the top. Finally, plant seeds of any quick-growing vine at the base of each pole. The vines will transform the bare string and wire into a lovely, leafy teahouse—ephemeral but perfect.