The dwelling is not a shelter from the elements, but rather accepts both the patterns of nature. It is not preoccupied with the ethic of making a difference, but is in harmony with the cycles of the universe. The dwelling is complete yet temporary, only being held together by the hands of those who come and go. It is an immersive experience, allowing one to feel the breathing of the earth. The dwelling has no roof, but is instead a canopy of sky. Visitors anticipate nightfall when the sun sets, and watch it be replaced with the moon. Mallards carve their migratory patterns into the memory of those gazing at the sky. The experience of the dwelling is immersive. The wind blows fresh air across their faces and carries the crackling of the leaves. Children on vacation lay the hide over the skeleton around which the tipi is full of rich cultural meaning. The word tipi comes from a combination of the Sioux words 'tipi', meaning to dwell or live, and 'pi', meaning a place of dwelling. The Lakota word for tipi is 'ti', meaning to dwell or live.

THE MAKING OF A TIPI

After the hide is removed from the tipi, it is now time to stitch together the bundles of hide that represent the past, present and future. The bundles are secured by sliding the hide over the skeleton around which the tipi is full of rich cultural meaning. The word tipi comes from a combination of the Sioux words ‘tipi’, meaning to dwell or live, and ‘pi’, meaning a place of dwelling. The Lakota word for tipi is ‘ti’, meaning to dwell or live.

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