

CAMPING

Prepared by:

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Target Group:

2nd Year Scouts and Above

Times Offered:

Two, One-hour blocks

Pre-Requisites:

- Req. 4b: Preparing for an actual campout
- Req. 5e: Have a scoutmaster check that your gear is properly packed
- Req. 8d: Cook a full day of meals while camping, including trail meal
- Req. 9a: Camp 20 nights
- Req. 9b: On the camping experience, do two adventurous activities (See full list in requirements)
- Req. 9c: On the camping experience, perform a conservation project

Instructional Outcomes:

Upon completion of this activity, scouts will have basic knowledge of potential hazards while camping, and methods of mitigation and prevention including first aid. Skills in orienteering, campout preparation, overnight sleeping methods, and cookware knowledge will be learned and demonstrated.

Monday

Materials:

Camping Merit Badge Book
First Aid Kit
Paper
Pens

Objectives:

1. Do the following:

- (a) Explain to your counselor the most likely hazards you may encounter while participating in camping activities and what you should do to anticipate, help prevent, mitigate, and respond to these hazards.
- (b) Discuss with your counselor why it is important to be aware of weather conditions before and during your camping activities. Tell how you can prepare should the weather turn bad during your campouts.
- (c) Show that you know first aid for and how to prevent injuries or illnesses that could occur while camping, including hypothermia, frostbite, heat reactions, dehydration, altitude sickness, insect stings, tick bites, snakebite, blisters, and hyperventilation.

2. Learn the Leave No Trace principles and the Outdoor Code and explain what they mean. Write a personal and group plan for implementing these principles on your next outing.

4. Do the following:

- (a) Make a duty roster showing how your patrol is organized for an actual overnight campout. List assignments for each member.

Directions:

Discuss potential hazards they could experience while camping. Discuss ways of prevention and mitigation for each. Discuss 5-10 hazards based on time. One of these should be bad weather.

Instruct the principles of Leave No Trace and the points of the Outdoor Code. Have the scouts recite the Outdoor Code as a group to help them remember. In groups of 3-4, have them write out plans for using Leave No trace principles on their next campout.

Split the activity period into patrols (6-8 scouts in each group). Ask the scouts what duties would be required on a campout. In their groups, they will create a duty roster for a campout.

Tuesday

Materials:

Camping Merit Badge book
Map of Camp Geiger
Paper
Pens
Compass

Objectives:

3. Make a written plan* for an overnight trek and show how to get to your camping spot by using a topographical map and one of the following:

(a) A compass

8. Do the following:

(a) Explain the safety procedures for:

Using a propane or butane/propane stove

- Using a liquid fuel stove
- Proper storage of extra fuel

(b) Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of different types of lightweight cooking stoves.

(c) Prepare a camp menu. Explain how the menu would differ from a menu for a backpacking or float trip. Give recipes and make a food list for your patrol. Plan two breakfasts, three lunches, and two suppers. Discuss how to protect your food against bad weather, animals, and contamination.

Directions:

Using a map of Camp, have patrols from Monday plan different treks to an overnight campsite. Be sure to explain how a topographical map works. Have the campsite be on the south side of camp so they can practice using a compass and directions. If there is time at the end of the hour, explain how GPS apps work on cell phones.

Discuss the differences in lightweight camp stoves. Discuss advantages and disadvantages to the different camp stoves.

In their patrols, have them prepare a campout food menu. As a group, discuss how to protect food and cookware

Wednesday

Materials:

Camping Merit Badge Book
Backpack
Wood Tools

Objectives:

5. Do the following:

- (a) Prepare a list of clothing you would need for overnight campouts in both warm and cold weather. Explain the term "layering."
- (b) Discuss footwear for different kinds of weather and how the right footwear is important for protecting your feet.
- (c) Explain the proper care and storage of camping equipment (clothing, footwear, bedding).
- (d) List the outdoor essentials necessary for any campout, and explain why each item is needed.

7. Prepare for an overnight campout with your patrol by doing the following:

- (a) Make a checklist of personal and patrol gear that will be needed.
- (b) Pack your own gear and your share of the patrol equipment and food for proper carrying. Show that your pack is right for quickly getting what is needed first, and that it has been assembled properly for comfort, weight, balance, size, and neatness.

Directions:

As a group, discuss clothing needed for both warm and cold weather. Discuss "layering". Talk about proper footwear for various weather conditions. Discuss how to care for and protect personal and camp equipment on a campout. Explain why each outdoor essential is needed.

Go over camp tools with scouts. Discuss proper use, care and storage for each item.

Have scouts come up with list of items that they would use on a campout. Have them explain reason and usage for each item. Create a class "pack" for an overnight campout.

Using a backpack, show how to pack gear properly.

Thursday

Materials:

Sleeping bags

Objectives:

6. Do the following

(b) Discuss the importance of camp sanitation and tell why water treatment is essential. Then demonstrate two ways to treat water.

(e) Discuss the types of sleeping bags and what kind would be suitable for different conditions. Explain the proper care of your sleeping bag and how to keep it dry. Make a comfortable ground bed.

Directions:

Talk about various sleeping bags and appropriate conditions for each. Discuss proper care as well. Assist them in making a comfortable ground bed.

Explain water purification methods. Demonstrate Iodine tablets and collecting moisture from plants. Allow the scouts to try these as well.

Friday

Materials:

Tents
Iodine Tablets
Plastic bags

Objectives:

6. Do the following:

(a) Describe the features of four types of tents, when and where they could be used, and how to care for tents. Working with another Scout, pitch a tent.

(b) Discuss the importance of camp sanitation and tell why water treatment is essential. Then demonstrate two ways to treat water.

(c) Describe the factors to be considered in deciding where to pitch your tent.

(d) Tell the difference between internal- and external-frame packs. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each.

10. Discuss how the things you did to earn this badge have taught you about personal health and safety, survival, public health, conservation, and good citizenship. In your discussion, tell how Scout spirit and the Scout Oath and Scout Law apply to camping and outdoor ethics.

Directions:

Discuss different types of tents and the advantages and disadvantages of each. Also describe proper care for tents.

Discuss how camping merit badge has bettered the scouts' understanding of personal health and safety, survival, public health, conservation, and good citizenship. In your discussion, tell how Scout spirit and the Scout Oath and Scout Law apply to camping and outdoor ethics.

Complete any requirements not yet completed.