

Camping Emblem



Planning & Preparing – Requirement #1

Selecting a Campsite

For novice campers, it may be best to select a location that is well known, such as a Salvation Army campground. This will ensure that you have adequate support and access to information about your setting. This might also be the most cost effective choice, and you may be allowed to make use of The Salvation Army’s camping and sporting equipment.

For a booklet on campground locations, including facilities, services and ratings, contact the AAA nearest you.

Activities, Meals & Equipment

www.gorp.com/gorp/publishers/foghorn/camp_kid.htm – This site provides Ten Camping Commandments to Build Excitement Outdoors in order to plan a kid-friendly campout.

www.gorp.com/gorp/food/recipes.htm – For menu ideas, the same company has recipes available.

You can use the following checklist to prepare for your trip.

Basic Equipment:

- ___ flashlight
- ___ lantern
- ___ batteries
- ___ tarp
- ___ rope
- ___ water container
- ___ pocket knife/Swiss Army knife
- ___ compass
- ___ maps
- ___ wallet/cash/license
- ___ camera
- ___ sports equipment/entertainment
- ___ axe
- ___ duct tape



- _____ tent
- _____ sleeping bags
- _____ pillows
- _____ cell phone (for emergencies)

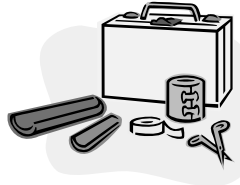
Clothing (depends on weather and length of trip):

- _____ sweater/jacket
- _____ pants/shorts/jeans
- _____ shirts/t-shirts
- _____ underwear
- _____ swimsuit/sandals
- _____ thick socks/thin socks
- _____ hat/visor
- _____ gloves/thermals/etc. for cold weather
- _____ comfortable walking or hiking shoes – at least 2 pairs



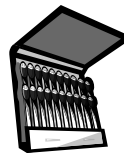
Toiletries:

- _____ insect repellent
- _____ first aid kit
- _____ prescription medication
- _____ toothbrush/toothpaste
- _____ soap
- _____ toilet paper
- _____ sunscreen
- _____ wet wipes
- _____ washcloth/towel
- _____ sewing kit



Cooking:

- _____ ice (can be gallon milk jugs filled with water)
- _____ ice chest/storage containers
- _____ stove/propane/fuel
- _____ matches/lighter
- _____ paper plates/cups/plastic ware/bowls
- _____ pots and pans
- _____ cooking utensils: knife, tongs, spatula, can opener
- _____ aluminum foil/plastic wrap
- _____ plastic bags for garbage/ziplock bags
- _____ dish washing soap/scrubber/towel



Fire:

- _____ wood/kindling/newspaper
- _____ campfire permit
- _____ shovel/bucket
- _____ fire extinguisher



Do not forget to obtain parental permission forms and to inform parents about your whereabouts, how you can be reached, and the estimated time of your return home.

Work Assignments

Make sure that your section plays an important part in planning the trip. Assignments are easier to accept when kids see “the big picture.”

One way to prepare kids for the trip is to let them explore Go Camping America Kids Pages. This resource has games, recipes, coloring pages, safety tips, and more for kids. Go to www.gocampingamerica.com/kidspages/.

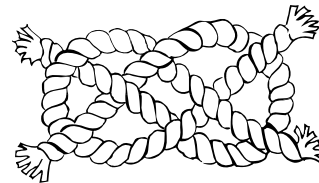
The Square Knot & Clove Hitch – Requirement #2

For more information and graphic illustrations about knot tying, visit the following websites:

www.mistral.co.uk/42brghtn/knots/index.html

www.library.thinkquest.org/3599/virtual5.htm

www.tollesburysc.co.uk/Knots/Knots_gallery.htm



Setting Up a Tent – Requirement #3

For a thorough description of tent selection and set up, visit the following website at www.marinoutdoors.com/Brochures/choosetent.htm.

When choosing a site, avoid sharp objects, excessive wind, and damp grounds. Pitch the tent with the zipper open. Set up a tarp (rain fly) over the tent to prevent it from getting soaked by heavy rain or damaged by the sun. Make sure that all ropes are taut and that stakes are solidly anchored in the ground. Do not wear shoes within the tent.

Camping Safety – Requirement #4

Rules for Leaders:

- As a leader, you should be well versed in the proper use of camping equipment.
- Know the rules of your chosen campsite and follow them.
- If you are new to camping, invite someone with more experience to accompany your section. (Just make sure that your guest has been properly screened for child safety issues.)
- Know the location of the nearest hospital.

- Keep all medications. Do not allow children access to the first aid kit or prescription medication. You should know the medical background of your troop before setting out.
- Children must be supervised at all times.
- Store food properly. You do not want to attract animals. Keep perishables cold to prevent food poisoning. Be prepared to pay for more ice.

Rules for Kids:

- Stay with a leader at all times. Do not go off alone.
- Be prepared!
- Your leader should know if you have any allergies, medical conditions or prescription medications.
- Do not handle leaves. They may be poisonous.
- If you get lost or separated, STOP where you are and wait for help.
- Do NOT go into any water without permission.
- Fire is useful and can be harmful. Do not play in or near the fire. Do not remove burning things from the fire.
- Take care of yourself. Drink lots of water. Eat well so that you will have energy for your activities.
- Wear sunscreen and insect repellent. You don't want itchy or burning skin.
- If you have wet clothing, hang it to dry. Do not bunch it up or stuff it in your bag.

Backyard Campout – Requirement #5

Camping in the backyard is a great way to get started. If you keep track of those things for which you must return to the house, you will have a solid packing list for a larger adventure.

Keep local ordinances in mind. Do not plan to build an unauthorized fire.

Backyard camping requires less time for setting up and tearing down. Be sure to plan a solid evening of activities. A bored camper is a homesick camper.

Your Favorite Bible Story – Requirement #6

Boys that are new to the Bible may not have a favorite story yet. The following are some suggested stories that a boy might be interested in choosing to talk about:

God's Creation	Genesis 1:1-2:3
Adam and Eve	Genesis 2:4-3:24
Noah's Ark	Genesis 6:9-8:22
Joseph and his brothers	Genesis 37
David and Goliath	1 Samuel 17:1-58

Samson and Delilah	Judges 13-16
The Birth of Jesus	Matthew 1:18-2:12
Jesus in the Temple	Luke 2:41-52
Jesus heals many	Matthew 8:1-4
	Mark 10:46-52
Jesus feeds the crowds	Luke 9:10-17
Jesus' parables	Luke 15:1-7
	Matthew 13:31-32
Jesus death and resurrection	Mark 15:21-16:13

For a more comprehensive list, see pages 22-24 of The Youth Bible, the New Century Version of the Bible, which is used for Cross Training for Corps Cadets.

Devotionals

Devotional #1

Any trip requires a lot of preparation. There's stuff to pack, calendars to check, directions, maps, meals, equipment – and lots more to think about. Can you imagine going somewhere special without being ready? Some people try, you know. Many folks think that at the end of their life, they are headed to a special place. Do you know the name of that place? Yes, it's heaven. But we've got to get ready to go there. We can't just show up and hope that things will work out for us there. The Bible tells us that heaven is for those who believe in God and accept Jesus as His Son. (Read John 3:16 directly from your Bible. It's important for kids to see you using your Bible, so that they know that it is the source of this information – and that you read it!) John wrote that Jesus is our way – the only way – to that beautiful place. I want to go there, don't you? Pray for kids and for those who need the Lord.

Devotional #2

Isn't it great that we're going to eat a lot of good food on our camping trip? I love the variety – and I love to eat good stuff. (Name some of the foods you'll be eating.) Variety is good. But the Bible tells us that God's children need something more. They need to trust in him. (Review Exodus 16 and keep it handy during this devotional.) When the Israelites were out wandering in the desert – after they escaped from slavery in Egypt and before they came to the Promised Land – there was nothing to eat. So God provided manna. Manna was kind of like bread, but it appeared miraculously each morning for the children of Israel to eat. And eat. And eat. Every morning, noon and night. The people got sick of manna. So sick of manna that they forgot the bigger issue, that is, that God had rescued them and was preparing a great place for them to go. The people grumbled against God. Now, God heard them. But He was sad, because the people should have been thankful and trusting, but they weren't.

Do you ever grumble and complain, and forget the good things that God has given you? We all have. Let's take a minute to thank God for the really important things – and ask Him to help us to remember these things when we start to complain. (Pray with your section.)

Devotional #3

I just love rules, don't you? Yeah, every day I wake up and say, "Just can't wait to learn all the new stuff I can't do today!" Don't believe me? Well, maybe I don't LOVE rules, but I understand them. Take camping rules, for instance. I don't LOVE having to wear sunscreen, but I do it. If I don't, I end up with a nasty burn. I don't LOVE staying in a group all the time. I'd love to explore by myself, but I know it's important in case there's an emergency. Yeah, there are a number of rules that I accept, not because I LOVE them, but because I know they are good for me.

Did you know that David wrote in Psalm 119 that he LOVED God's rules? David said this because he knew that every one of God's laws is written with love, by our Father who wants us to be happy and safe. Every rule that God makes is good for us. So, when you think of God's rules that way, it kind of makes sense that David would love them. Let's pray now that God will help us listen to His Word and follow his directions, because we know that His rules are written in love for us.

Devotional #4

Use the Bible story sharing time as an opportunity to witness to your section about a Bible passage or event that is meaningful to you. Discuss how the Bible has a message for each of us TODAY, and that it is useful for a lifetime of reading. Let kids know that each time they read a familiar story, they will learn something new.

Use this quiet time to answer questions kids have about the Bible. Write down any questions that needed further clarification. Next week, take time to provide that clarification.

Additional Resources

Mouland, Michael. The Complete Idiot's Guide to Hiking, Camping, and the Great Outdoors. Macmillan:1996.