

# outdoorsman

## Edible Fire

Teach the art of fire building by letting the scouts make an edible fire. Make sure you OK the fire before they consume it! Unfold a napkin and build a fire ring of small marshmallows in the center. Build the fire using flaked coconut as kindling, red hots or raisins as coals, candy corn as flames, and pretzel sticks as logs. Keep a small container (small disposable cup) full of Kool-Aid on hand to put out the fire.

## Campouts

You should spend time with the scouts and their parents planning the Outdoorsman campout. You will need to plan where to go, what to take, what types of meals to prepare and many other things. Time spent on planning is time well spent.

A key reason for scout camping is to teach the boys respect for nature and good conservation practices. Setting a good example is the best way to teach this lesson. If the boys see that you are concerned about the environment and that you leave a campsite better than you found it, they will adopt your practices.

### **Factors to Consider:**

- Adult and boy: every boy should be accompanied by an adult.
- When selecting a location, consider distance, transportation needs, cost, and what type of activities is available.
- Meal planning is important. Consider any special dietary requirements, water, trash disposal, refrigeration, and ease of preparation.
- Sanitation matters too. Be sure you have access to safe drinking water (or haul your own), and facilities for dish washing, showers, handwashing, and latrines.
- Activities should be planned. Although you can allow some free time in the schedule, a structured schedule works best. Consider planning hikes, working on knots, campfire building and program, tracking, orienteering and working on activity badges.
- First Aid and Safety are important too. Take a first aid kit, including prescription medication any boy takes. Know where the nearest medical facility is and how to get to it. Know who is allergic to what. Remember to put safety first. That means boys do not handle or have access to hatchets, axes or chain saws! Require that the buddy system be used at all times. Follow all fire safety rules. Gas or other liquid fuels are to be handled by adults only. Talk to the boys about what to do if the weather suddenly turns threatening. Talk about the importance of "hugging a tree" and staying put if they become lost in the woods. Explain that the group can find two lost buddies more quickly if the two lost buddies stay where they are!
- Don't forget to have a Plan B in case Plan A falls apart. Actually a Plan C wouldn't hurt too!
- Camping gear is important. Everyone needs good bedding and tents.
- Wise Webelos leaders have a "shakedown" and look through the boys' packs to see what they are taking with them. You can eliminate any items that shouldn't be taken.
- Be prepared for sudden changes in the weather. An extra roll of garbage bags can become "instant rain ponchos" if needed. If you have a weather radio, take it with you.

# OUTDOORSMAN

- Earn this on a Webelos campout! Try Cub World at Camp Strake or Bay Area Council's Camp Karankawa.
- Practice knots as gathering activities before den meetings. Play 'knot' basketball. Name a knot that the boys must tie correctly before they can shoot a free throw. They earn a 2 points for tying the knot correctly and 1 point if they make the basket. The boy with the most points at the end of the game wins!
- Camp at least 2 times each year with your Webelos. Residence Camp and Webelos Woods are excellent camping experiences. Try to earn the Winter Camping patch.
- Have a campfire at least one night of your campouts. Let the boys help build the fire ; teach fire safety (req. #7). Have the boys do skits and songs.
- Teach the boys the patrol method of preparation, fire, cooking, and cleaning. The boys should do these on all campouts. (req. #6)
- Camp with a Troop.

## Tent Skit – Webelos

**Wait on stage, but not seen by the audience.**

One boy goes out at a time, says his line (and any action), then sits by the tent or the campfire.

**Scout #1:** takes tent, goes on stage, says - This looks like a great place to pitch our tent.

**Scout #2:** walks on stage -let's build a campfire right here. I'll start it with Lighter Fluid - to make sure we get it going! (Pour lighter fluid on, bend down to light it, leader offstage yells Poof! John and Tony jump back - say 'WOW - good fire!')

**Scout #3:** walks on stage -Hey -this is a great roaring river! We can wake up in the morning and go kayaking, and even surfing! Water's really high!

**Scout #4:** Hey - here's some neat ants! I'll catch some for my Bug Collection! OUCH! THEY BITE!  
OUCH

**Scout #5:** (Walk in, scratching all over) That sure was a pretty set of leaves I collected. I wonder what that vine was, with all those berries! Those 3 leaves were really shiny!

**Scout #6:** This is great to camping Barefoot! Oooh - what was that I stepped on! Something long, clad skinny and yellow and red! Let's see - red and yellow, friend of fellow? Or Kill a fellow? Hmm oh well!

**Scout #7:** That sure was a great dinner we cooked last night. I just wish I didn't keep tasting it!  
(rubs belly, looks sick)

**Scout #8:** I wonder if there are any tarantulas around. This looks like the perfect location to find one for my collection.

**Scouts #9 & 10:** We thought we wouldn't find you guys.  
Yeah - good thing you have this huge fire! We could see your smoke signals!

AFTER ALL BOYS ARE ON STAGE, AND SITTING AROUND CAMPFIRE:

**Scout #2:** Smoke Signals? Do you smell smoke?

**Scout #1:** Yeah! The tent's on fire!

**Scout #3:** Don't worry - The river's going over the banks! It'll put the fire out!

**Scout #4, Scout #7, Scout #5,** everyone else, RUN! IT'S FLOODING!!!

**Scout #6:** HOPE WE GET OUR CAMPING BADGE!! (everyone runs off stage as they say this.)

Resources:

- Texas Camping Books
- campouts
- Webelos Woods
- Webelos Do Your Best
- Local Troops