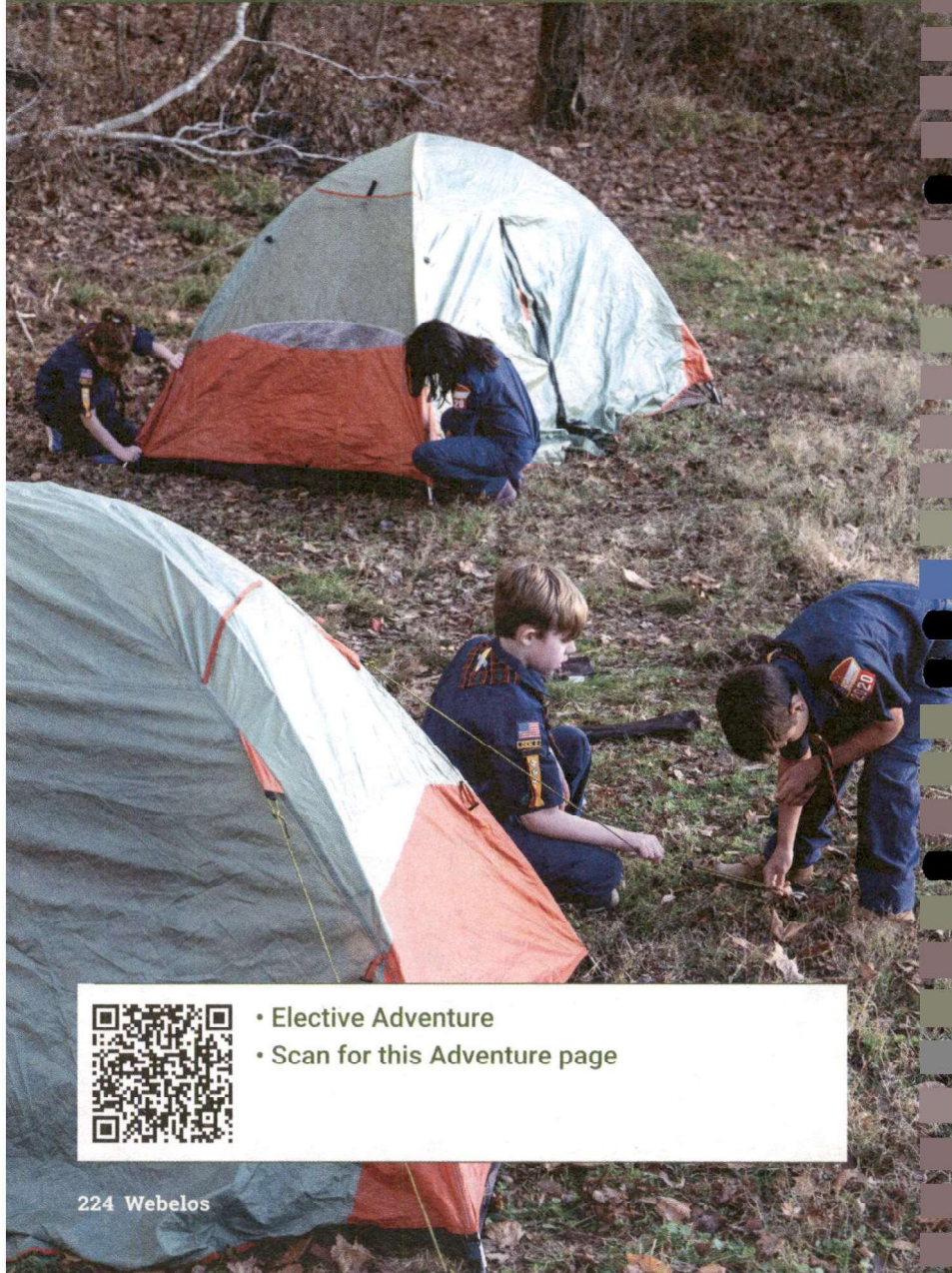


LET'S CAMP

ELECTIVE ADVENTURE



- Elective Adventure
- Scan for this Adventure page

SNAPSHOT OF ADVENTURE



There's nothing like the great outdoors! In this Adventure, you will get the chance to plan and participate in a campout. You'll learn how to be prepared for extreme weather events, and you'll also demonstrate how to leave no trace when you're outdoors.

REQUIREMENTS

Approved by _____

1. With your den, pack, or family, plan and participate in a campout. _____
2. Upon arrival at the campground, determine where to set up a tent. _____
3. Set up a tent without help from an adult. _____
4. Identify a potential weather hazard that could occur in your area. Determine the action you will take if you experience the weather hazard during the campout. _____
5. Show how to tie a bowline. Explain when this knot should be used and why. _____
6. Know the fire safety rules. Using those rules, locate a safe area to build a campfire. _____
7. Using tinder, kindling, and fuel wood, properly build a teepee fire lay. If circumstances permit and there is no local restriction on fires, show how to safely light the fire while under adult supervision. After allowing the fire to burn safely, extinguish the flames with minimal impact to the fire site. _____
8. Recite the Outdoor Code and Leave No Trace Principles for Kids from memory. _____
9. After your campout, share the things you did to follow the Outdoor Code and Leave No Trace Principles for Kids with your den or family. _____

REQUIREMENT 1

With your den, pack, or family, plan and participate in a campout.

If you went camping when you were younger, your parents or other adults may have done all the planning. As a Webelos Scout, you get to help plan this Adventure. Work with your den leader or another adult in charge of your campout to help plan. Pick out a location and determine the dates. Make a list of activities that you could do on the campout.

Our Campout

Location _____

Departure Date and Time _____

Return Date and Time _____

Adult Leader in Charge _____

Activities _____

Special Equipment We Need _____

Campout Ideas

What can you do on your campout? Here are some ideas:

- ▶ Take a hike.
- ▶ Complete a compass course or geocaching game.
- ▶ Play a wide game like capture the flag.
- ▶ Have a first-aid relay.
- ▶ Compete in a sports tournament.

- ▶ Have a special cooking contest.
- ▶ Go stargazing.
- ▶ Do nature crafts.
- ▶ Have a scavenger hunt.
- ▶ Complete a service project.
- ▶ Plan and participate in a campfire program.
- ▶ Conduct a flag ceremony or flag retirement.
- ▶ Plan and participate in an interfaith worship service.

Camping Gear

A big part of being prepared is taking the right equipment on camping trips. On the next page are things you should take on den or pack outings. This list is like the Cub Scout Six Essentials you might have used before, but it includes some additional items to consider for your campout. You can borrow some items until you are ready to invest in new equipment.



* Find out more about the Cub Scout Six Essentials on page 24.

Overnight Gear

- ▶ Tent or tarp, poles, and stakes
- ▶ Ground cloth
- ▶ Sleeping bag
- ▶ Pillow
- ▶ Air mattress or pad
- ▶ Warm jacket
- ▶ Sweatshirt (try to avoid cotton)
- ▶ Sweatpants (for sleeping, try to avoid cotton)
- ▶ Socks (avoid cotton)
- ▶ Cup, bowl, knife, fork, spoon, mesh bag
- ▶ Insect repellent
- ▶ Extra clothing
- ▶ Toothpaste, toothbrush, soap, washcloth, towel, comb, personal medications**
- ▶ Webelos Scout uniform
- ▶ Durable shoes/boots (depending on weather)
- ▶ Hat or cap

Optional Items

- ▶ Camera
- ▶ Binoculars
- ▶ Sunglasses
- ▶ Fishing gear
- ▶ Notebook and pencil
- ▶ Nature books
- ▶ Swimsuit
- ▶ Bath towel
- ▶ Bible, testament, prayer book, or another book for your faith

**Personal medications should be given to the adult in charge.

REQUIREMENT 2

**Upon arrival at the campground,
determine where to set up a tent.**

There are many things you can do to make your camp home as nice as possible, even if your tent may not be quite as comfortable as your bed back home. When you get to your campsite, spend a few minutes finding the best possible spot for your tent.



First look for a designated tent site. If there is not one, then look for a site that is flat or almost flat. A grassy area or an area covered in leaves will be softer than bare dirt. If bare dirt is the only option, a sleeping pad or inflatable mattress is a good idea!

Look around to make sure the site is not in a natural drainage area or on a trail or path. Look up to make sure there are no dead tree limbs overhead that might fall in a storm. Leave some space between your tent and the next one for privacy.

Once you've picked your tent site, move aside any rocks, pinecones, or sticks that would be uncomfortable to sleep on. Do not remove bushes or small plants; instead, put your tent in a spot where you will have only a small impact on nature. After the campout, restore the site to the way it looked when you arrived. Scouts always leave places better than they found them.

Now, work with your tentmate or other Webelos Scouts to set up your tent. Put your gear inside and get ready to start your camping adventure.

REQUIREMENT 3

Set up a tent without help from an adult.

Tents come in different shapes and sizes. Regardless of the details of how your tent is set up, below are some basic steps to follow. Make sure to read the directions that came with your tent before setting it up and follow those directions.



1. Roll out the tent.



2. Check that you have all the pieces, poles, tents, etc.



3. Lay out the ground cloth.



4. Lay out the tent over the ground cloth.



5. Insert the poles for the tent.



6. Stake down the tent at its base.



7. Add the rainfly and stake down any guylines.

Taking Care of Your Tent

Your tent will last for years if you take care of it. (Remember that a Scout is thrifty.) Here are some tips:

- ▶ Always pitch it on a ground cloth, which is a sheet of plastic or tarp that protects the floor from dirt, sharp objects, and moisture. (Fold the corners of the tarp under the tent so the ground cloth is no bigger than the tent; otherwise, rain can get in between.)
- ▶ Don't wear your shoes inside the tent.
- ▶ Keep tent vents open to let moisture escape.
- ▶ Keep all flames away from tents. Never use candles, matches, stoves, heaters, or lanterns in or near a tent. No tent is fireproof. All tents can burn or melt when exposed to heat.
- ▶ Let the tent dry in the sun before you take it down. If you have to pack it up wet, set it up again as soon as you get home or hang it indoors until it dries completely. That will prevent mildew from ruining the fabric — and making it stink.

REQUIREMENT 4

Identify a potential weather hazard that could occur in your area. Determine the action you will take if you experience the weather hazard during the campout.

On most campouts or other outdoor activities, the worst weather you'll see is rain and heat or cold. Sometimes, however, the weather can be dangerous. It's important to be prepared for bad situations.

Severe Rain and Flooding



Flash floods can occur when there is very heavy rain over several hours or steady rain over several days. Because flash floods can strike with little warning, you should never camp on low ground next to streams when rain is expected.

When you're camping in the mountains or desert, be aware of the weather upstream from your campsite. Heavy rain miles away can turn into flash floods downstream.

If flooding occurs, move to higher ground immediately. Stay out of streams, ditches, and other flooded areas. Adults should never try to drive through flood waters, no matter how shallow they may seem. Just a few inches of water can carry off a car!

Severe Thunderstorms, Lightning, and Tornadoes

Thunderstorms can be loud and scary. Sometimes they produce dangerous lightning and tornadoes.



Lightning can strike 10 miles from a thunderstorm, so you should take shelter in a building or vehicle as soon as you hear thunder — even if the sun is shining overhead. Make sure you're not the highest object in the area, and avoid water, open areas, isolated trees, picnic shelters, and metal objects. If you're caught in the open, spread out 100 feet apart and crouch down like you do when you play leapfrog.

Tornadoes are funnel clouds that can form in spring and summer thunderstorms. The best place to be if a tornado hits is indoors, either in a basement or closet or against an interior wall. If you're caught outside, get in a ditch, and lie as flat as possible.



Dust and Sandstorms

Dust and sandstorms are among nature's most violent and unpredictable phenomena. High winds lift dirt or sand particles into the air, unleashing a turbulent, suffocating cloud that can reduce visibility to almost nothing in a matter of seconds and



cause property damage, injuries, and deaths. No matter where you live, it's a good idea to know what to do if you see a wall of sand racing toward you.

If you are caught in a sandstorm, cover your mouth, nose, and eyes for protection. Seek shelter, and if none is available, seek higher ground.

Tip: The National Weather Service issues watches when conditions are right for severe weather and warnings when severe weather is occurring. Your leader can carry a portable weather radio or use a mobile phone application to receive information about watches, warnings, and forecasts for your area.

Fires, Earthquakes, and Other Disasters

In very rare cases, such as if there's a forest fire, you may have to evacuate your campsite. Your leader will tell the den where to meet, take attendance, and move the group to safety.

Staying Found — Anyone can get lost, even adults. But you can do some things to avoid getting lost — and to stay safe if you do get lost.

- ▶ Always stay with a buddy.
- ▶ Tell an adult if you and your buddy need to leave the group and where you are going.
- ▶ Carry a whistle to signal for help. Three blasts in a row are the universal distress call.
- ▶ If you think you are lost, remember to "STOP!" Stay where you are and stay calm. Think about how you can help others search for you. Observe your surroundings and watch for searchers. Plan how to stay warm and dry until help arrives.



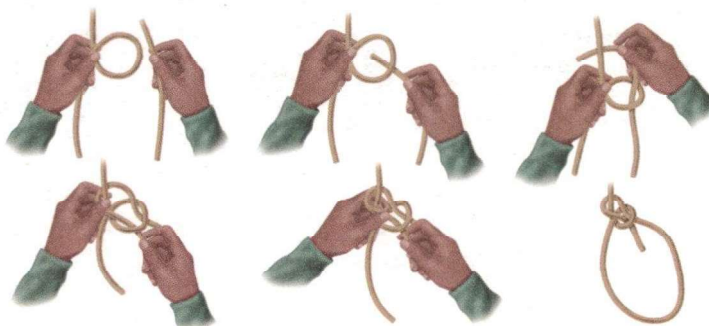
REQUIREMENT 5

Show how to tie a bowline. Explain when this knot should be used and why.

A bowline is a very useful knot to learn. It makes a fixed loop in a rope that won't slip. The bowline can be used to anchor one end of a rope to a tree or other stationary object, or as the loop around the person's chest in a rescue situation — such as pulling a person out of a hole or off the side of a cliff.



1. Make a small overhand loop in the standing part of the rope.
2. Bring the rope end up through the loop, around behind the standing part, and back down into the loop.
3. Tighten the bowline by pulling the standing part of the rope away from the loop.



REQUIREMENT 6

Know the fire safety rules. Using those rules, locate a safe area to build a campfire.



Picking a Campfire Spot

- ▶ Do not build a campfire if the campground area or event rules prohibit them. Sometimes digging of pits may be prohibited due to archaeological or other concerns.
- ▶ Do not build a campfire in hazardous, dry conditions.
- ▶ Find out if the campground has an existing fire ring or fire pit.
- ▶ If there is not an existing fire pit and pits are allowed, choose a site at least 15 feet from tent walls, shrubs, trees, or other flammable objects. Beware of low-hanging branches.

- ▶ Choose an open, level location away from heavy fuels such as logs, brush, or decaying leaves.
- ▶ Take wind and its direction into account when choosing the site. Choose a spot that's protected from gusts.

Be Careful With Fire

- ▶ Webelos light fires only under supervision of a den leader or another adult.
- ▶ Clear anything that could burn from an area at least 5 feet in all directions from your fire.
- ▶ Never play in or around the fire.
- ▶ Never leave the fire unattended.
- ▶ Make sure the fire is completely out before you leave.

Champions for Nature Tips

- ▶ To help protect the Earth, never cut live trees for firewood. (Green wood doesn't burn.)
- ▶ Don't bring firewood from home. Doing that can spread pests that hurt trees.

REQUIREMENT 7

Using tinder, kindling, and fuel wood, properly build a teepee fire lay. If circumstances permit and there is no local restriction on fires, show how to safely light the fire while under adult supervision. After allowing the fire to burn safely, extinguish the flames with minimal impact to the fire site.



To start a fire, you need three things: heat, oxygen, and fuel. Heat comes from matches or a lighter, oxygen comes from the air, and fuel comes from wood. However, not just any wood will do. It needs to be dry and well-seasoned — never freshly cut. Also, you can't just hold a match to a big log to start a fire. Instead, you must build your fire slowly using tinder, kindling, and logs.

Tinder is anything that burns as soon as you light it. It can include small twigs, dry leaves, pine needles, tree bark, wood shavings, paper, or even dryer lint you bring from home. (Really!) Kindling is small sticks, no bigger than a pencil, which will burn

easily but not as fast as tinder. Fuel wood is bigger pieces of wood that will burn a long time. You don't need huge logs, by the way; look for pieces no thicker than your wrist.

To lay a fire, first gather all the tinder, kindling, and fuel wood you think you will need. Then follow these steps:

- ▶ Build a teepee out of kindling and put some tinder inside it. Add some fuel wood.
- ▶ Light the tinder and blow gently or fan, if necessary, to supply oxygen.
- ▶ As the kindling burns, have an adult help add larger sticks and then small logs.

After you're done with the campfire, be sure to put out your fire completely. You can cover a small fire with a metal can. For larger fires, you can use water or sand and stir the coals. Carefully feel for heat near the fire and continue extinguishing until the area is completely cold to the touch.



REQUIREMENT 8

Recite the Outdoor Code and Leave No Trace Principles for Kids from memory.

Imagine arriving at a campsite and finding damaged trees, a smoldering campfire, and bags of trash that animals have torn into. Now imagine arriving at a campsite and feeling like you're the first group that's ever been there. Which campsite would you like more? The second one, of course.

The Outdoor Code is a promise all Scouts make to help care for the environment. It's important to even the youngest Cub Scouts and the most seasoned leaders. Now it's time to be sure you've learned it by heart.



Leave No Trace is a way of living in the outdoors that respects the environment and other people. By following Leave No Trace principles, we can take care of outdoor spaces and help preserve them for the Scouts of tomorrow. Are you ready to learn these principles, too?

Find the Outdoor Code and Leave No Trace Principles for Kids in the front of your Webelos handbook. Read them and say them aloud until you have them memorized. When you're ready, recite them to your den leader or parent or legal guardian.

REQUIREMENT 9

After your campout, share the things you did to follow the Outdoor Code and Leave No Trace Principles for Kids with your den or family.

What did you and your den do to demonstrate the Outdoor Code and Leave No Trace Principles for Kids while on your campout or outdoor activity?

