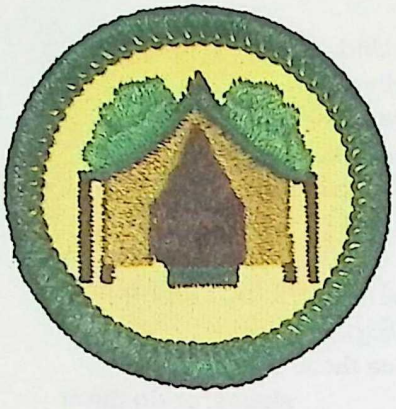
Camp Together



Hike or bike, sing or stargaze, watch a sunrise or sunset, sleep in a tent or in a cozy cabin. Round up your friends or family and head to the great outdoors! To earn this badge, you must do activities 1 and 2.

1. Make a Plan

Help plan a group camping trip to a troop house, cabin, tent unit, or cottage for at least two nights. Create a budget for your trip. Then plan what to eat, what to take, and how to get there.

Budget Items
Food
Cleaning supplies
First aid kit
Program supplies
Rental of facilities
Charter of bus
Gasoline, tolls
Other travel expenses

2. Safety First

Do each of the following:

- Learn to recognize hazards such as cliffs, poisonous plants, insects, animals, or unstable footing that could be a danger. Discuss with others how to protect yourself in such situations.
- Establish a buddy system, group boundaries, and a signal for gathering the group in case of an emergency.
- Establish a "lost plan," or what a girl would do in case she is separated from the group.
- Review the fire and evacuation plans posted at the site. Learn what you should do and practice an evacuation.

3. Walk Softly

Learn about "leave no trace" camping. Find out how poor camping and outdoor recreation practices can cause damage to the campsite and environment. Show what you have learned about three or more of the following: erosion; fire, air or water pollution; feeding wildlife; not removing garbage; and destruction of plant or animal habitat. Explain or show how you can prevent each of the ones you choose.

4. Dress Right

Develop a list of group and personal clothing and equipment to take with you on your trip. Help to pack and carry the equipment and supplies.

5. Fueling and Cleaning Up

Plan a day's worth of nutritious camping menus: breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snacks. Plan for any health or religious needs regarding food. Cook one meal over a camp stove or use a solar oven. Decide on nutritious foods that you can bring when doing outdoor activities. Learn how to clean up and dispose of garbage.

6. Challenge Yourself

Learn a new outdoor skill such as how to pitch a tent, use a map and compass, rappel, dry food, bird-watch, purify water, or cook outdoors.

7. Pitching In

Before you go, make a schedule for activities, free time, bedtime, meals, clean-up, and setting up and closing camp. Make a kaper chart that gives each girl a turn at the different jobs.

8. Natural World

Plan an outdoor activity that helps you learn more about your natural surroundings through observation. Perhaps plan a nature hike or scavenger hunt.

9. The Outdoors at Night

Do one of the following, after discussing nighttime safety:

- Take a starry night hike or stargaze from an open spot.
- Go to an area where everyone can sit quietly. Listen to the night sounds for a while, then write a poem about what you heard or experienced.
- Or plan your own activity that captures the night.

10. Learning from Experience

(Do this activity last, after you've returned from your trip.) As a group, make a list of camping tips to share with new campers. Decide what worked for you and the group and what you would change for the next camping trip. Share what you discovered about yourself and the outdoors and what you'd like to do your next time out.

