

# Preparing for the Webelos Den

## Overnight Campout

The den meetings leading up to your first Webelos overnight campout should provide instruction in the activities for the campout. Hold the meetings outdoors and invite the other adults who will accompany the boys. You can incorporate the activities below in your den meeting plans.

### Activity 1—Equipment and Tents

1. Explain the plans for the overnight campout and distribute personal equipment checklists to each boy-adult team. (See chapter 6, *Cub Scout Leader Book*, for a suggested checklist.) Review the checklist and discuss plans for obtaining tents.
2. Have instruction and practice in pitching the tents you will use. Also have practice in making a ground bed.
3. Ask the den chief to lead practice in tying knots needed for the campout.
4. Review the Outdoor Code.

### Activity 2—Fire Building

1. Practice firelays for cooking and council fires. Stress safety in preparing the fire site, lighting, and putting out fires. Use the same type fuel (wood or charcoal) that you will use for cooking fires on the campout.
2. Discuss the menu for the campout and show how to prepare the food.
3. When fires are ready, end with a marshmallow roast.

## Suggested Agenda For a One-Night Campout

### Saturday

- Arrive at campsite. Set up tents and bedding. Gather fuel supply, if needed and permitted.
- Raise U.S. flag with ceremony.
- Have a nature hike. Do activity badge work.
- Go fishing.
- Boy-adult teams prepare and eat sack lunch. Clean up.
- Free time.
- Have activity badge work or swimming/boating.
- Boy-adult teams build cooking fires and prepare dinner. Den eats as a group.
- Wash dishes and clean up.
- Free time.
- Lower U.S. flag with ceremony.
- Have campfire program.
- Lights out.

### Sunday

- Reveille.
- Air bedding. Clean up campsite.
- Boy-adult teams prepare and eat breakfast.
- Wash dishes and clean up.
- Hold religious service. Boy-adult teams may go to a nearby church, or a nondenominational service may be held at the campsite.
- Strike camp. Leave site in better condition than you found it.

# Campout Checklist

## Departure and Arrival

- From what point do we leave? When?
- How long will it take to travel to the campsite?
- When will we return?

## Campsite

- Have you filed a Local Tour Permit Application?
- Are reservations or other permits required?
- Does the campsite lend itself to conservation projects?
- Is firewood available or do we need to bring it from home?
- Is the water supply safe or do we need to bring our own?

## Transportation

- Do we have enough cars and qualified drivers to carry boys, adults, and the equipment?
- What about carpooling?
- What about public transportation?

## Participation

- Is there an adult to accompany every boy?
- Are any substitute adults needed?
- Is the den chief coming? Was he involved in the planning?
- Will anyone from the troop be there?

## Equipment

- Do the boys and adults know what to bring?
- Who will bring bow saws for cutting wood?
- Who will bring the first aid kit?

## Meal Preparation

- Have we planned simple fare? Hearty ingredients?
- How many meals? Which ones? Snacks?
- Are there utensils to match the menus?
- What about eating utensils? Paper plates and cups for easy disposal?

## Activities

- Games? What kind? Who will lead them?
- Campfire? Who is responsible for what?
- Hikes? Who is in charge?
- Activity badge work? Who is in charge?
- Swimming? Boating? Fishing? Who is in charge?

## Communications

Do boys, adults, and families know

- Where we are going?
- When we are going?
- How we are going?
- How to get there?
- How we can be reached in an emergency?
- What equipment to take?
- What food to take?
- When and where we will return?

## Alternatives

Does our campout plan provide alternatives?

- What to do if first choice of sites is not available?
- What to do if it rains?