

Activity 1: Activity 1: As Girls Arrive: Draw Your Gear

Time Allotment

5 minutes

Materials

Packing List handout, one for each Brownie

Colored markers

Steps

Welcome Brownies and have them read the list and then look at the pictures at the bottom of the list. What's missing from the list? Have them draw it!

SAY:

Exciting news! You are going camping! But what will you need to bring? First, on the Packing List handout, read the list and look at the pictures at the bottom of the list. What's missing? Draw it!

(Note: Brownies should add drawings of: closed-toe shoes, poncho or raincoat, long-sleeved jacket, sunscreen, hat with brim, lip balm, sunglasses, and medications)

Activity 2: Activity 2: Opening Ceremony: Leave No Trace

Time Allotment

15 minutes

Materials

Flag

Illustrated Leave No Trace Principles handout, one for each Brownie

Steps

Recite the Pledge of Allegiance and the Promise and Law.

Explain what Leave No Trace means, have girls talk about ways they will protect nature while camping.

SAY:

A Girl Scout always leaves an area better than she finds it. That's why we follow Leave No Trace rules when we go camping to help protect nature.

Have girls take turns reading the Leave No Trace principles out loud.

SAY:

Knowing what you need to bring on a camping trip and how to pack the right gear is part of good planning.

And good planning is the first step of Leave No Trace: Know Before You Go.

Know Before You Go means you plan ahead so you leave nothing behind and protect nature. For example: You will bring containers to store your food and protect it from wildlife. You will bring garbage bags for your trash and bring everything out of the campsite when you're done camping.

Let's talk about the other Leave No Trace principles you read earlier.

Choose the right path. What do you think this means?

(Answer: Walk only on paths and camp surfaces. Be careful not to step on plants and flowers.)

Trash your trash. What do you think this means?

(Answer: Make sure to put everything in garbage bags and carry it out when you leave a campsite.)

Leave what you find. What do you think this means?

(Answer: Anything you find outdoors--rocks, plants, pinecones--has an important role in nature. A fallen leaf might be shelter for insects or food for wildlife. Don't collect anything--leave everything in nature as you find it.

Be careful with fire. What do you think this means?

(Answer: If you do build a campfire, keep it small and make sure it doesn't harm any plants or wildlife.)

Respect wildlife. What do you think this means?

(Answer: Never approach, feed or follow wildlife. It's OK to look at wildlife, but from a distance.)

Be kind to other visitors. What do you think this means?

(Answer: When you meet up with other visitors on a trail or in a campsite, be respectful and give each other space.

Activity 3: Activity 3: Camp Planning

Time Allotment

20 minutes

Materials

Paper

Pencils

White board or poster board with "Camp Questions" and "Camp Plan" written across top

Steps

Show Brownies the two columns on the board; explain they will break into teams to do some planning.

Break girls into teams of three to four each.

Have them discuss and write up a plan for their camping trip using the questions as a guide.

When they finish, gather girls to go over their camping trip goals and make a plan as a group.

Point to the board and the column "Camp Questions."

SAY:

*Your gear is part of camp planning: **What will you bring?** We'll talk more about gear later so you skip that question.*

For now, break up into teams and come up with answers to the other questions and we'll share when you're done.

When Brownies are done, write their answers on the board as they volunteer their suggestions.

Come up with a group decision about where to go. Don't worry about getting into details about a menu plan, or about the campsite, it's more of an overall planning session to find out what type of trip the Brownies want to have.

Give Brownies a chance to talk about the ideas they like (or don't like).

If Brownies are divided between a few ideas, ask them to choose one top idea and keep the others as backups. You can also have them vote--just make sure that anyone whose idea wasn't

chosen knows that it was a good idea and that it might be used later.

Brownies may reach an agreement quickly. If they don't, note the top 2 or 3 ideas and facilitate an agreement using "fist to five":

If you're holding up 5 fingers, you love it!

4 fingers--it's good.

3 fingers--you're OK with the idea.

2 fingers--you're OK with it but perhaps want to make a little change.

1 finger--you'd like to talk about making more changes.

And a closed fist--no fingers--you really don't like it!

Activity 4: Activity 4: Snack Break: Make a No-Cook Camp Meal

Time Allotment

15 minutes

Materials

Whole wheat bagel, one for each girl

Salami, turkey or ham slices

Cheese slices

Juice or water

Optional: Replace bagel with flour tortilla or rice cakes

Steps

Brownies act as camp chefs and make a no-cook meal.

SAY:

It's fun to cook meals while you're camping, but no-cook meals can save time on days when you have lots of other activities planned.

Today you'll make a no-cook meal you can also enjoy when you go camping.

Activity 5: Activity 5: Show Me the Gear

Time Allotment

10 minutes

Materials

Packing List from Activity 1

Steps

Have Brownies talk about the gear they drew on the Packing List from Activity 1.

SAY:

Take a look at your Packing List. Share what you drew and tell us what it is.

Have girls share the items they drew and read through the list to make sure all the items are covered.

Can you think of other things you might need?

(Girls might say: Portable stove to cook on. Sleeping bags. Tents. Firewood to build a fire.

Coolers and food. First-aid kit.)

Activity 6: Activity 6: What's My Gear?

Time Allotment

20 minutes

Materials

Equipment and gear that Brownies brought to the meeting
Index card with gear tryout scenarios

Steps

Brownies display the gear they brought and do a share and compare.

Brownies play a "try-out" game with their gear.

SAY:

Camping with a group makes it easier because you can share gear items. Look at what's displayed and decide what things you can share.

(Girls may decide they only need one stove, one set of cooking utensils, one first-aid kit, one cooler, etc.)

Now let's play a gear try-out game. One by one, pick a card and then do what's asked on the card.

Once you read the card, you will have 30 seconds to grab whatever is on the gear table.

Don't tell your friends what the card says so everyone can guess what you're doing.

Activity 7: Activity 7: Closing Ceremony: Plan a Brownie Kaper Chart

Time Allotment

5 minutes

Materials

Poster board

Markers

Steps

Brownies sit in a circle and fill out a kaper chart with camp chores

SAY:

The jobs that need to be done on camping trips, like dish washing, cooking, and cleaning up are called "kapers."

Let's make a kaper chart for your camping trip!

Have Brownies volunteer their name for the chores they want to do. It's OK to have more than one Brownie on a chore.

End the meeting with a Friendship Squeeze.