



Trail Blazer

Weekly

Week of October 7th - Camp Cooking & Pioneer Skills



THIS WEEK WE LEARNED:

FOXES & HAWKS (Ages 5-8)

Topic: Wild Brothers Trail Bread Making

Key Skills Learned:

- Ziplock bag bread-making method (mess-free!)
- Mixing dry ingredients, oil, and water
- Kneading dough in the bag
- How yeast works to make dough rise
- Rolling dough into "snakes" for roasting sticks



- Cooking bread over an open charcoal fire
- Fire safety practice: Stop, Drop, and Roll

Scripture Focus: "A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump." - Galatians 5:9 KJV

Spiritual Lesson: Just like yeast spreads through dough, sin can spread through our hearts if we're not careful. We learned how small things can have big effects!

Practice This Week: Ask your parents if you can help measure ingredients when cooking at home

MOUNTAIN LIONS (Ages 9-11)

Topic: Emergency Altoids Tin Cooking Stoves

Key Skills Learned:

- Building a portable emergency cooking stove
- Packing corrugated cardboard strips vertically with center wick
- Understanding how paraffin wax creates fuel
- Self-reliance and preparedness for survival situations
- Fire safety around cooking flames
- Patience while stoves cooled and set

Progress Toward: Outdoor Skills Branch and Fire Guard Card

Scripture Focus: Being prepared and self-reliant through God's wisdom

Home Assignment: Store your Altoids stove in your camping gear - you built real survival equipment!

***Always let an
older Trailman
or adult handle
fire***



NAVIGATORS (Ages 12-14)

Topic: Emergency Cooking Equipment Construction

Skills Mastered:

- Advanced stove construction with precision
- Understanding emergency cooking principles
- Fire safety management during group cooking
- Leadership in preparing charcoal fire for younger Trailmen

Badge Progress: Continuing Fire Ranger Trail Badge work

Scripture Application: Using skills to serve others and prepare for challenges

Weekly Challenge: Research other emergency cooking methods you could make from household items



ADVENTURERS (Ages 15-18)

Topic: Survival Skills & Leadership Service

Leadership Focus:

- Built emergency cooking stoves with technical precision
- Helped prepare and manage the campfire for the entire troop
- Demonstrated fire safety for younger Trailmen
- Modeled patience and brotherhood around the fire

Character Development: Serving younger boys while mastering advanced skills

Scripture Reflection: "Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend." - Proverbs 27:17 KJV

Preparation for Next Week: Continue practicing fire safety and outdoor cooking skills



TROOP HIGHLIGHTS:

Brotherhood Around the Fire: All age groups came together at the campfire - younger boys brought their risen dough, older boys had the fire prepared, and everyone cooked Trail Bread together on roasting sticks!

Skills in Action: Foxes and Hawks used what they made, Mountain Lions/ Navigators/Adventurers enjoyed the bread while their stoves finished cooling, and everyone practiced real fire safety.

Shared Success: Each Trailman went home with either fresh-baked bread memories or an emergency cooking stove they built themselves (or both!).

“Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.”

PROVERBS 27:17

FAMILY CONNECTION:

Discussion Starters for the Ride Home:

- "What did you learn about yeast and how it spreads through dough?"
- "How does your Altoids stove work in an emergency?" (older boys)
- "What was it like cooking your bread over the real fire?"
- "How did the older and younger boys help each other tonight?"

Ways Parents Can Reinforce This Week's Lessons:

- Let younger boys help with bread or baking at home
- Store the Altoids stove with camping gear and discuss when to use it
- Practice fire safety rules when using the grill or fireplace
- Talk about being prepared for emergencies as a family

LOOKING AHEAD:

Next Week: Trebuchet planning discussion and continued outdoor skills development

Trebuchet Build Project - Materials Needed!

We're planning an exciting trebuchet building project! If you have any of these materials laying around that you're not using, perhaps your Trailman could do some chores to earn them and bring them to Trail Life:

Materials We Need:

- 2x4 lumber (various lengths)
- Wood screws (assorted sizes)
- Plywood - 4'x4' section for the base
- Plywood scraps for the bucket/pouch
- Small pallet for the base structure
- Steel pipe (3/4" to 1" diameter)
- Rope
- Wood stain

This is a great opportunity for boys to:

- Earn materials through work and responsibility
- Contribute to a troop-wide project
- Learn the value of resourcefulness
- See how their effort helps build something amazing

What to Bring Next Week:

- Bible
- Trailman Handbook
- Water bottle
- Ready for more adventure!

Fundraiser Update:

Premium meat stick sales continue! Online store available anytime at:
<https://countrysmeats.com/pages/seller-profile/trail-life-troop-pa-1997>

PARENT REMINDERS:



Trail Blazer Weekly Submissions Wanted! Send us photos and stories:

- Your Trailman using his Altoids stove at home
- Practicing bread-making or cooking skills
- Examples of fire safety awareness
- Character moments throughout the week

Send to: TLtroopPA1997@yahoo.com

Fundraiser Update:

- Local orders were collected tonight - thank you!
- Online store remains open: <https://countrymeats.com/pages/seller-profile/trail-life-troop-pa-1997>
- Share with out-of-state family and friends

Important Items:

- Trail Life Connect App - sign consent forms if you haven't yet
- Medical forms due for new Trailmen
- Operation Christmas Child coming in November

TRAIL POINTS TO REMEMBER:

"And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." - Galatians 6:9 KJV

This week, your Trailman learned that good things take time and patience - whether waiting for dough to rise, stoves to cool, or bread to cook over fire. The best part? Coming together as a troop to share the results of everyone's hard work around the campfire!

From Mess-Free Mixing to Emergency Stoves: Tonight showed what Trail Life is all about - age-appropriate challenges that build real skills, spiritual lessons woven into hands-on activities, and brotherhood formed around the campfire.

Special Thanks: Dawn Stewart for leading the bread-making lesson and teaching spiritual truths through yeast and dough. Adult leaders who helped with stove construction and fire management.

*Trail Life PA-1997 meets Tuesdays at 6:00 PM
Living Word Baptist Church, 40 Hess Lane, Sweet Valley, PA
Boys ages 5-18 welcome anytime!*

Wild Brothers Trail Bread Recipe

Quick campfire bread - makes 6-8 sticks

Ingredients

Pre-mix at home in gallon ziplock:

- 2½ cups flour
- 1½ tsp salt
- 1 tsp sugar
- 1 packet (2¼ tsp) instant yeast

Add at camp:

- 2 tbsp oil
- 1 cup warm water

Instructions

1. Shake bag to mix dry ingredients
2. Add oil, seal bag, squish until crumbly
3. Add warm water, seal with air inside
4. Knead in bag 2-3 minutes until smooth
5. Let rise 15-30 minutes
6. Cut corner of bag, squeeze out dough
7. Divide into 6-8 pieces, roll into snakes
8. Twist around stick, cook over coals 8-10 minutes, rotating constantly

Tips

- Add seasonings to dry mix: Italian, cinnamon, ranch, taco
- Pack honey, jam, or parmesan packets for toppings
- Wrap bacon around dough before cooking (Kian Wild's way!)

Perfect for Trail Life, camping, and outdoor cooking!