

Outdoor Action Progression

FIRE TENDER

Complete all seven steps outlined below:

1. Learn about hiking. With your group, plan and go on a one to two mile hike, taking with you a picnic lunch. Plan food, first-aid equipment, clothing and destination.
2. Take three different kinds of outdoor observation hikes or walks such as a color hike or hike to observe signs of the seasons, birds, tiny treasures, etc. One of these may be combined with Step 1 above. Share your experiences with someone else.
3. Learn how to measure distance by paces. Demonstrate your ability to do so on at least three separate occasions. One should be for a specific purpose such as the distance from school to your Camp Fire USA meeting place, your house to the nearest park.
4. Learn a joining knot such as the square knot or the sheet bend and a stopper knot such as the overhand knot and their uses. Demonstrate how to pack a sleeping bag or make a bedroll using these knots.
5. Learn and demonstrate use, care, safety and selection of a pocket knife. Make shavings for a fire.
6. Learn about the kinds of fuel for outdoor cooking. Know how to care for charcoal and/or make a wood pile.
7. Learn facts of fire building and fire safety. With a group, build and use a fire and cook a simple one-pot dish or a foil dinner or something on a stick. Be sure to keep the fire as small as possible. Plan the menu, capers and cleanup.

Outdoor Action Progression

HIGH ADVENTURE

Prerequisite: must have completed Fire Tender level of Outdoor Progressions.

Complete all seven steps outlined below:

1. Learn the Conservation Pledge and explain what it means to you. Discuss the current environmental concerns of your community. Develop and carry out a plan to help.

CONSERVATION PLEDGE

I give my pledge as an American to save
and faithfully to defend from waste the
natural resources of my country – its air,
soil and minerals, its forests, waters and wildlife

2. Learn how to whip the ends of a rope and demonstrate your ability to do so by teaching someone else. Learn two additional knots and their uses. Demonstrate by using them.
3. Learn the parts of a compass, including the cardinal and ordinal or intercardinal points. Demonstrate your knowledge, plus the ability to take and follow a degree reading from the cardinal points. With several others, play at least two games with a compass.
4. Use your pocket knife in two different ways as a tool to aid in camping.
5. Learn to build a fire for cooking in a contained fireplace, or learn to construct and use a buddy burner or hobo stove. Cook two meals on the fire you choose using different recipes and methods.
6. Make lists of equipment needed for an overnight. Include personal items. Decide what equipment you can make.
7. Using all knowledge gained so far, plan and carry out an overnight camping trip. Cook at least two meals outdoors. Do a waste disposal plan, caper chart, equipment list, permission form and transportation plan.

Outdoor Action Progression

TRAIL MAKER

Prerequisite: must have completed High Adventure level of Outdoor Progressions.

Complete all seven steps outlined below:

1. With several others, take the responsibility for improving camping land or public property by cleaning paths, checking erosion, reforestation, cleaning up litter.
2. Using a compass, make a simple map of an outdoor area. Locate the natural features of the area and discuss the interrelationships that exist among the natural features on your map.
3. Make a tarp or temporary shelter demonstrating knowledge of how to use the terrain to protect you from the weather.
4. Learn and demonstrate the use of a saw for preparing firewood.
5. Cook and eat a meal using no utensils, or cook part of a meal using solar heat as your heat source. (See recipe section of the Outdoor Book for suggestions.)
6. Pack camping gear so it can be carried either in containers for car camping or in a backpack. Learn how to store food at a camp site without gas or electric refrigeration.
7. Plan and carry out a one-night or two-night camping trip using all skills so far obtained. Cook at least three meals outdoors using at least two kinds of outdoor cookery. Have a waste disposal plan, camp chart, equipment list, permission form, transportation plan.

Outdoor Action Progression

EXPLORER

Prerequisite: must have completed Trail Maker level of Outdoor Progressions.

Complete all eight steps outlined below:

1. Visit a nature trail, an interpretive center or other outdoor education areas. Discuss how and why it was developed and what you learned by visiting it.
2. Do an ecological study of an area. Select an area approximately 10' x 10' at the beach, in the woods, near a stream, pond, field. Study, identify and inventory the living organisms, such as plants, animals, bugs, birds. Examine and study the soil. Observe the effects of sun, wind, rain, and temperature on your plot. To the best of your ability, determine the interrelationships and interpret them to others.
3. Follow a map by using a compass.
4. Learn to use a two-person saw, a hatchet or an ax. Demonstrate your ability to do so on at least three occasions and use these tools to help with a project.
5. Learn to care for and cook on a liquid fuel stove. Use it to cook three outdoor meals.
6. Learn and demonstrate how to pitch a tent.
7. Plan and carry out a two-night camping trip cooking a minimum of five meals outdoors by using as many as possible of the skills, methods and planning abilities you have learned.
8. Evaluate what you have gained in completing these requirements and how your feelings toward the outdoor world have changed or intensified.

Outdoor Action Progression

VOYAGER

Prerequisite: must have completed Explorer level of Outdoor Progressions.

Complete all six steps outlined below:

1. Select an outdoor specialization skill for camping, such as canoeing, backpacking, cross-country skiing, sailing, horseback riding, climbing and biking. Learn the basics of the specialization, including special equipment needs.
2. Write, in your own words, the safety concerns related to the skill. Share your safety ideas with a person who has mastered the skill.
3. Buy, rent or borrow the proper equipment and demonstrate a proficiency in the handling, use and repair of the equipment.
4. Demonstrate to a person who has mastered the skill the proper way to pack for a trip in your area of specialization. (That means you must carry all your food, equipment and other supplies with you.)
5. Learn and demonstrate the ability to forecast weather conditions and read maps related to the area of specialization.
6. Help plan and carry out a self-contained specialty trip, an outing undertaken with a particular goal in mind (usually offered by a group other than the local council). The trip should include travel with no motorized means of transportation. Include emergency procedures, and plan for minimum-impact camping, which recognizes that natural resources are limited, but at the same time takes into account a person's need to be outdoors. Include menu, equipment needs, travel route, cost and natural hazards you might encounter.