

Beavers Camp Craft Badge

Collect Wood And Help To Build A Fire

And

Cook On A Fire Or Barbecue

The Campfire®

By Samantha Eagle

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Overview

For this task the Beavers will learn about the three different types of material needed to make a fire. They will see the fire being lit then get a chance to cook on the fire.

Preparation Before The Meeting

1. If you are camping for this task then you don't need to choose a location. If not choose a location which is good for the Beavers to be able to collect materials for the fire and light the fire to cook some food on
2. Buy the food
3. Print the 'Campfire Materials and Structure' handout – found in this document – you need one to share between two Beavers and there are two on the page

Materials Needed

- Fire lighting equipment – matches/lighter and taper
- Food for the children – hamburger with bun or sausage with hot dog bun one for each child. If you have vegetarians choose a veggie burger or some veggies that you can wrap in tin foil
- Some water, cups, paper plates, utensils
- Grill to put over the fire

Preparation At The Meeting

1. Layout the food on a table and any utensils you need

Directions/Leader Speak

1. **Speak** - The next task you need to complete for your 'Beavers Camp Craft' badge is to collect wood and help to build a fire. This is really exciting but starting and keeping a fire going isn't easy unless you follow the right steps
2. **Speak** - The first step is to collect the correct material to start it. The material we need is **Tinder, Kindling and Logs**. Here's a picture of these three materials...
3. **Action** - Hand out the picture of the campfire material
4. **Direction** - Split your group into teams of 4 and allocate a type of fuel that you want them to go and collect
5. **Direction** - If it's raining tell them to look for fuel that's been naturally sheltered from the rain. Worst case you may need to split larger pieces of wood to get to shavings inside and use that as your tinder and kindling
6. **Direction** - Let them know where the area you have allocated is so they can put the fuel down and it's kept separate
7. **Direction** - Once you have your materials for the fire go through the 'Safety Steps' below for lighting a fire with the Beavers...

Generic Safety Directions For All Fire Structures...

STEP 1- CHOOSE

Choose an area for your campfire making sure it's 10-15 feet away from your tents and any other flammable objects

STEP 2 - CLEAR

Clear an area for your campfire making sure the ground is free from debris or any objects

STEP 3 - PIT

If it's possible to do so dig a 1 foot pit that your campfire will sit in, this will help to prevent embers flying out

STEP 4 – SAFE SURROUND

Build a surround of large stones. Leave an opening to light the fire then close once the fire is alight

STEP 5 - SAFETY

Position several containers of water nearby

Putting Out Your Fire

When Putting Out Your Fire...

- ✓ Pour water on it...
- ✓ Stir the ash and water again
- ✓ Move the rocks that you used as a surround to check there are no lit embers underneath

Note: Fires Can Still Smoulder Under Soil And Can Stay Hot For More Than Eight Hours

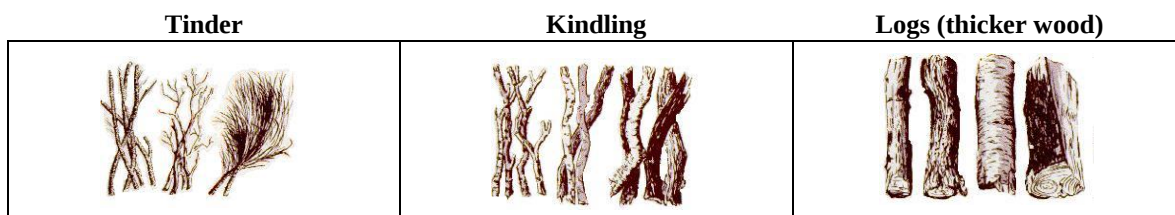
8. **Speak** – Great now we know all the safety precautions and have all the materials we can prepare and light our fire
9. **Speak** – Because we are going to cook some food on this fire we want it to be quite long lasting. So we are going to build a 'Cabin Structure with a Teepee'. You can see this on your handout. This structure is **good for cooking and is long lasting**. I need some of you to help lay the structure
10. **Note:** Make a stone surround before laying the structure. This will enable you to lay your grill to cook the food...
11. **Direction** – You give the directions and choose some of the children to lay the structure
12. **Speak** - To start with I want you to put three logs parallel to each other
13. **Speak** - Now stack two more layers of two logs each, placed perpendicular to the layer below. If you want your campfire larger and to last longer just lay more logs. But you should never build your fire too large that it becomes unmanageable
14. **Speak** - Fill the "cabin" with kindling and tinder
15. **Speak** – Then make a roof with sticks
16. **Speak** – Top with tinder or small twigs. The more tinder, the quicker the fire will ignite
17. **Speak** – Carefully lean many sticks together in a small teepee structure surrounding the mound. Use thinner sticks for the foundation, and then thicker ones
18. **Speak** – Light the tinder inside the teepee and let it burn. The teepee will eventually collapse and fall into the log cabin



19. **Direction** - Once the campfire is lit mention the following safety rules...
 - ✓ No running or messing around near the fire
 - ✓ No putting any fuel on the fire unless a leader has asked you to
 - ✓ No throwing any other item onto the campfire use the bins provided these can be found near [xxx]
20. **Note:** Before you start to cook the food have a little ‘Campfire Opening Ceremony’ – choose from the selection below
21. **Direction** - Gather everyone around the campfire and say the following...
22. **Speak** – When you light a campfire at Beavers you would usually have a little ceremony to open your camp so we’ve chosen one for our campfire...
23. **Direction** – Read your chosen opening
24. **Speak** - Okay brilliant let’s cook our food
25. **Direction** - If it’s safe you could then allow the Beaver with close supervision to put their food on the fire and get them to watch while the leader turns and cooks the food
26. **Direction** - Once it’s thoroughly cooked serve their food with some water

May this fire touch us with the magic of its mystery; May we see in its dance the ever changing beauty of the world; May this fire be good medicine where fellowship, adventure, and fun sit side by side; May this fire tonight/today remain forever in our hearts; Even as the first fire kindled by our ancestors has remained alight through the ages I now declare this camp/campfire open	The life of a fire is like the life of a person. In its infancy, it is faint and weak and must be carefully nourished and tended. As it catches, it crawls and spreads like a child exploring the world. In its adolescence, it flares fast and bright, racing for new height. Soon, it will burn with the steady heat and light of its adulthood. And finally give us the warmth and glowing friendship of old age. I now declare this camp/campfire open
As our campfire grows and grows, Let the smoke from its flames rise to carry our troubles and bad thoughts away, never to be seen again. Let the heat of its flames warm us all, and, as we share its warmth, we share each other's peace and contentment. I now declare this camp/campfire open	Beavers, in the light of the campfire, Let us come together with thankful hearts; And let our ideals be ever before us like a blazing torch Lighting a warm and steady path, The light not dimming And the peace not slackening. I now declare this camp/campfire open
Tonight/today we burn a fire With flames that sparkle and sing Our hearts aglow with friendship Let joyous laughter ring. Tonight/today we share a moment As we set the logs ablaze, A moment to remember, Throughout these wondrous days. I now declare this camp/campfire open <i>Jane McCutcheon</i>	Campfire Opening If You Arrived At Night Sit round the campfire, now night is here All birds are resting, no one is near Clap with your hands and tap with your feet, now Sway oh so gently, keep with the beat Oh-oh-oh-i-i, Oh-oh-oh-i Oh-oh-oh-i-i, Oh-oh-oh-i I now declare this camp/campfire open

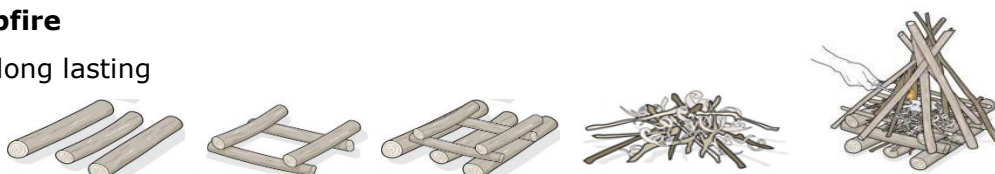
Materials Needed for a Campfire...



Campfire Structures

Cabin and Teepee Campfire

Good for cooking and is long lasting



Star Campfire

Good for cooking and long lasting. It's easy to control and takes little maintenance. This structure also comes in handy when you are unable to cut the fuel logs into shorter convenient lengths.

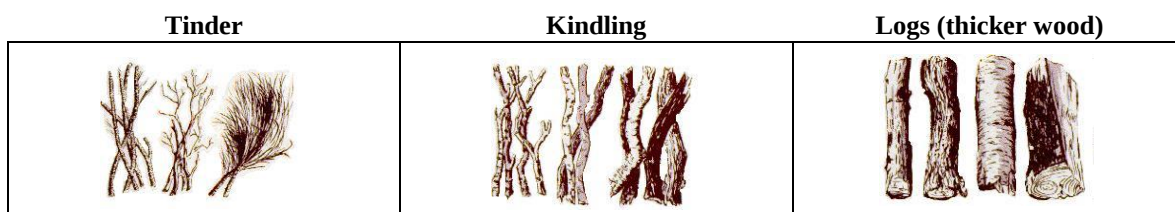


Teepee Campfire

Good for quick cooking and is easy to light.



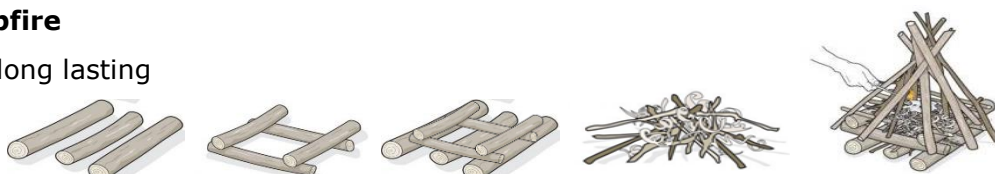
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