

CHRIS & CARRIE KALLAL'S

STEALTHS

IDEAS FOR
OUTDOOR ED
& STEMINESS



THE KALLAL'S



Chris Kallal is the Executive Director at Southeastern Baptist Youth Camp in Greensburg, Indiana. Chris, an Illinois native, has been a camping professional since 2001. He started off at Camp Manitoumi, in Illinois, serving as their program director for 10 years while also teaching 6th grade at Washburn Middle School. Then he spent 3 years learning to be a boy scout as the Camp Director of Ingersoll Scout Reservation. The next 10 years, Chris served as the Executive Director of Camp Good News in Illinois.

Carrie has been working at Camps longer than Chris! Starting as a CIT at Camp Manitoumi in 2000, then moving onto Girl's Leader, Dining Room Hostess, Counselor, Craft Person, Camp Store Director, Canteen Manager, Bookkeeper, Food Service Director, Assistant Director, and now Guest Services Director! In her free time, she loves to craft, test out new recipes, and talk camp!

When they find time, Chris and Carrie love to search online for the newest, unique ideas to implement into their Camp as well as visiting multiple camps over the years to "steal" ideas from them!

The Kallals love camp so much that they spend a lot of their free time teaching others about camp! They have taught camping classes at different conferences around the world and written a ton of books about the various aspects of camp life. As well, Chris co-hosts a podcast, Scamp Life - The Programming Side, where he talks all things Camp Programming.

They have a total of 4 children, Rowan, Emmalina, Autumn, and Aurora, as well as a couple dogs, cat, some hissing cockroaches, bearded dragon, leopard gecko, frog, couple turtles, and a pet skunk, named Stinkerbell!

Email: christopherkallal@yahoo.com
Download Packet: StealThisStuff.com

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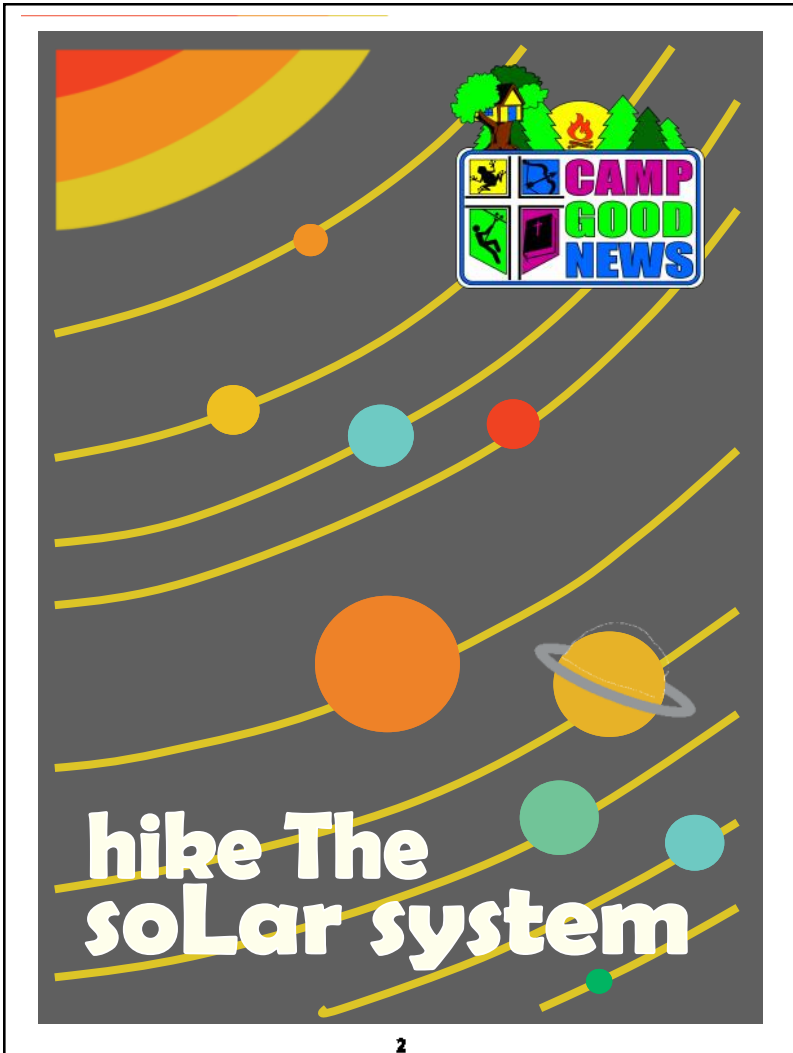
OUTDOOR EDUCATION

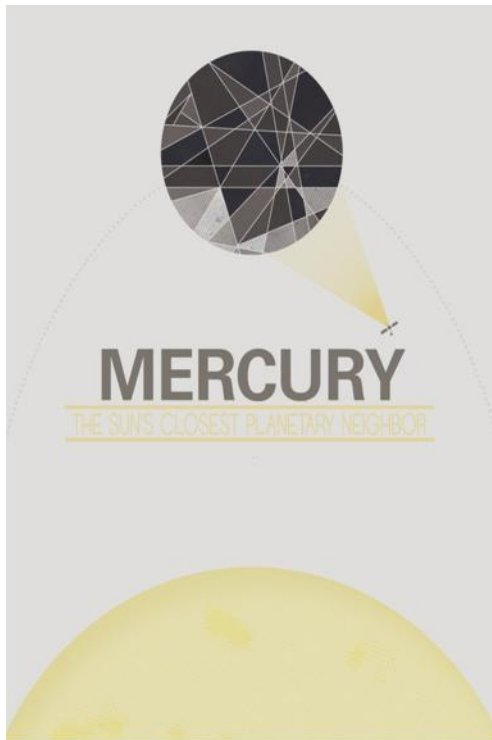
CAMPFESSION
I CAN'T EVEN TELL YOU HOW
MANY TREE ROOTS I'VE
ALMOST DIED TRIPPING OVER

Hike the Solar System

<http://thinkzone.wlonk.com/SS/SolarSystemModel.php>

http://www.exploratorium.edu/ronh/solar_system/



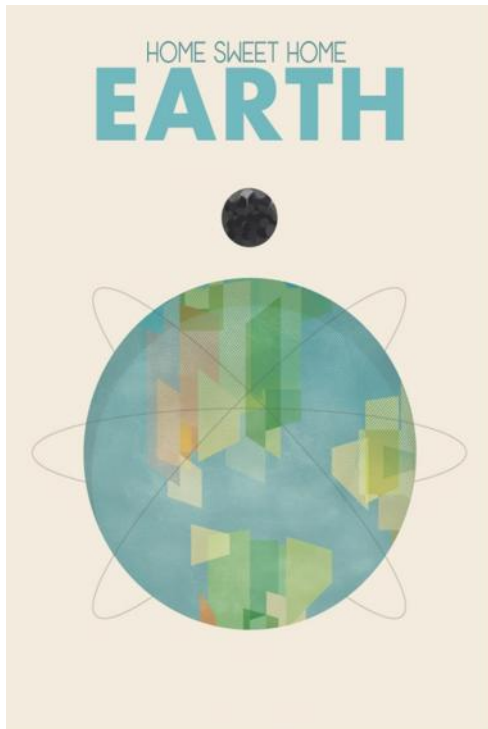


Mercury

Location at Camp:	Memorial Sign
Camp Scale Diameter:	0.0131 inches
Camp Scale Comparison:	Grain of Salt
Camp Scale Distance from Sun:	13 ft
Actual Diameter:	3,032 miles
Actual Distance from Sun:	35 million, 980 thousand miles

Fun Facts:

- Doesn't have any moons or rings
- Your weight on Mercury would be 38% of your weight on Earth. So if you weigh 100lbs here you would only weigh 38lbs on Mercury
- A day on Mercury lasts 176 Earth Days
- A year on Mercury takes 88 Earth Days
- Beside Pluto (which is now considered a Dwarf planet) Mercury is the smallest
- Even though it's closest to the sun, it's not the hottest. Because Mercury doesn't have an atmosphere, it doesn't stay hot.
- The side facing the sun can reach 800°F while the side away from the sun is -280°F
- Mercury is the most cratered planet. While most planets "self-heal" through natural geological processes, Mercury does not. The craters are also named after famous writers and artists.
- Mercury is 1 of the 5 planets visible with the naked eye from Earth
- Mercury has Wrinkles.
- Mercury has a molten core
- Only 2 spacecraft have ever visited Mercury.



Earth

Location at Camp:	One Way Sign
Camp Scale Diameter:	0.0343 inches
Camp Scale Comparison:	Width of an Ant
Camp Scale Distance from Sun:	33 ft, 7 in
Actual Diameter:	7,916 miles
Actual Distance from Sun:	92 million, 960 thousand miles

Fun Facts:

- Earth is the only planet not to be named after a Greek or Roman god.
- Earth has one moon
- 30 Earths could fit inside the distance from Earth to the Moon
- Earth is the densest planet in the Solar System.
- Earth is orbited by 7,000 satellites and 300,000 man-made debris
- The Moon rotates on its own axis in exactly the same time it takes to orbit the Earth, meaning the same side always faces the Earth
- The Moon has weaker gravity, due to its smaller mass, so you would weigh about 1/6 of your weight on Earth.
- The Moon has only been walked on by 12 people; all American males.
- Earth is the only planet that God chose to create people.
- We are His chosen creation that He loves and desires for us to spend eternity with Him. (John 3:16)
- Because of our sin (Romans 3:23) we are separated from God forever
- But Christ came to Earth and lived a sinless life and was able to die in our place to be the substitute for our sins (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)
- By Grace through Faith (Ephesians 2:8-9) is the only way of Salvation. Know you're a sinner; Tell that God, Tell Him you Believe that what He did on the cross is the only way of salvation, and Call on Him to Save you. (John 1:12)

Microscopes

Take on Hikes
Bring to Creek
Use in Nature Center

60-100x Magnification
Amazon \$7.97
<https://goo.gl/zHy1n7>



Roll over image to zoom in

SE MW10082 Pocket-Sized Illuminated LED Zoom Microscope, 60-100x Magnification

★★★★★ 3 customer review

Price: \$6.65 prime

FREE Shipping on orders over \$25—or get FREE Two-Day Shipping with Amazon Prime

Get \$40 off instantly: Pay \$0.00 upon approval for the Amazon.com Store Card.

Only 7 left in stock (more on the way).

Want it Monday, Nov. 6? Order within 13 hrs 2 mins and choose **Two-Day Shipping** at checkout. [Details](#)

Ships from and sold by Amazon.com. Gift-wrap available.

- 60-100x Zoom Magnification
- Built-in LED Light & Zoom Wheel for Added Control
- Adjustable Focus
- Carrying Pouch
- Comes with 3 AG10 Batteries
- See more product details

New (4) from \$5.47 + \$0.20 shipping

Report incorrect product information.

GadgetsCollection

Gadgets Collection GC30 30X Illuminated LED Pocket Microscope Magnifying Glass Jewelry Loupe

★★★★★ 3 customer reviews

Price: \$5.99 & FREE Shipping

Get \$40 off instantly: Pay \$0.00 upon approval for the Amazon.com Store Card.

In Stock.

Get it as soon as Nov. 3 - 7 when you choose **Expedited Shipping** at checkout.

Business Seller Ships from and sold by Gadgets Collection™.

- It includes a soft carrying case & a focusing wheel to adjust to the sharpest vision
- The sliding light condenser is for transmitting light onto the object
- The transparent cover is to be placed directly on the part of the object that is being viewed
- It measures approximately 5 7/16" x 1 13/16" (138 x 41 mm) long
- Works on 2 AA batteries (not included)

New (2) from \$5.99 & FREE shipping.

Report incorrect product information.



Roll over image to zoom in

30x Magnification
Amazon \$5.99

<https://goo.gl/9zdSPX>

USB 1000x Microscope
Amazon \$18.99
<https://goo.gl/R3jFYz>



Stargazing

Wish.com

\$9

<https://goo.gl/9xfk5P>



G303 Green Power Green Laser Pointer Star Cap gazing Pen 2 in 1 Beam Light Lazer (Size: 2, Color: Black)

★★★★★ (8)

~~\$66 USD~~ \$9 USD

🛒 Buy

♥ Save

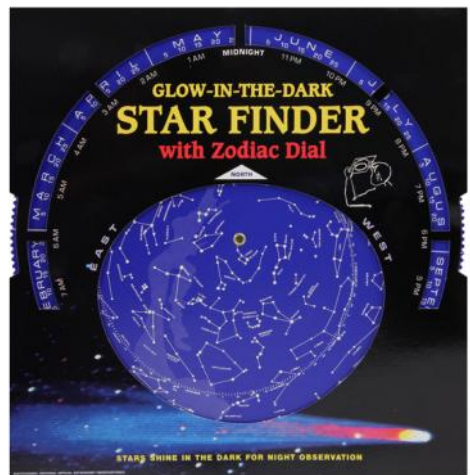


Star Finder

Rainbowresource.com

\$4.50

<https://goo.gl/dTNLaz>



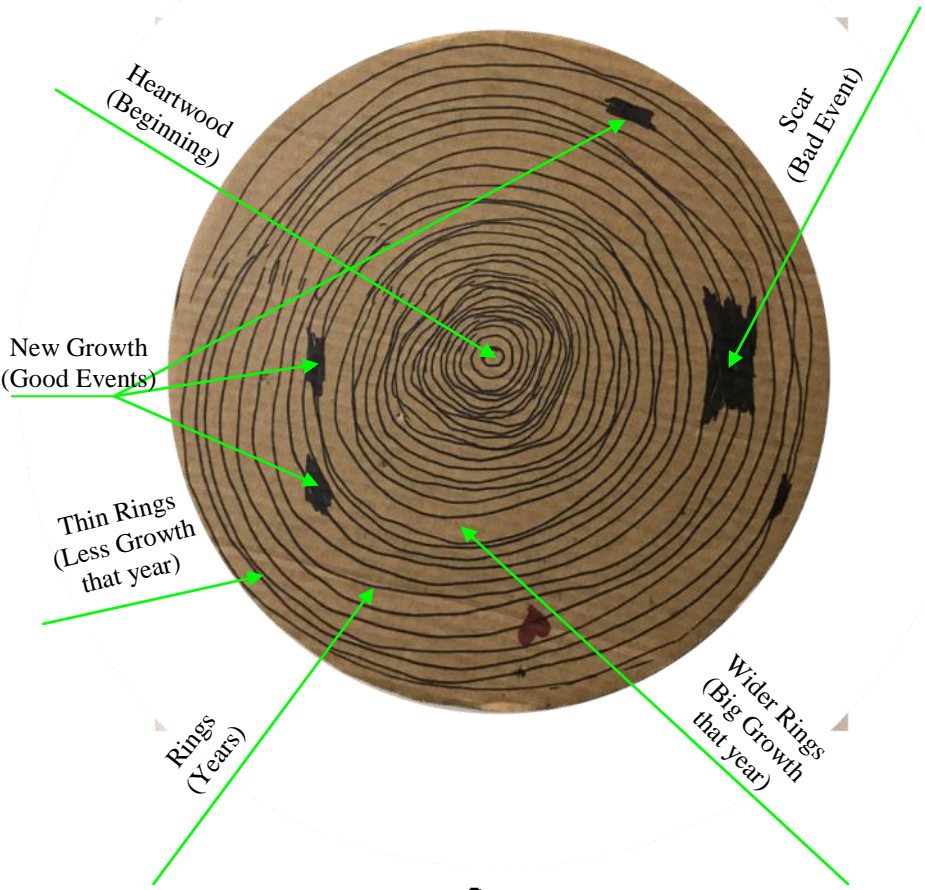
Astronomy Activities:

- **North at Night:** Point out the Big Dipper and help kids know how to find it. If you follow the two end stars of the cup of the Big Dipper, and go about 5 times the space between the stars, you will find the North Star. The Romans used the Big Dipper as an eye test. If you could see two stars in the handle that meant you had good eyesight. They also named the whole constellation the Great Bear because they knew that the bears lived in the North, and that is where the constellation is. This constellation is a circumpolar constellation, so it can be seen all year long.
- **Shooting Stars:** Lay down and watch the sky for shooting stars after you discuss what they are. Shooting stars are bits of comet dust, space junk, (parts of rockets, etc.), that have entered our atmosphere and are burning with the friction of moving against the air.

Tree Cookies

Use Tree Cookies to give a Timeline/Testimony of your life

Buy 12" Corrugated White Cake Circle from www.webstaurantstore.com
250/case is \$24.76



Atlatls

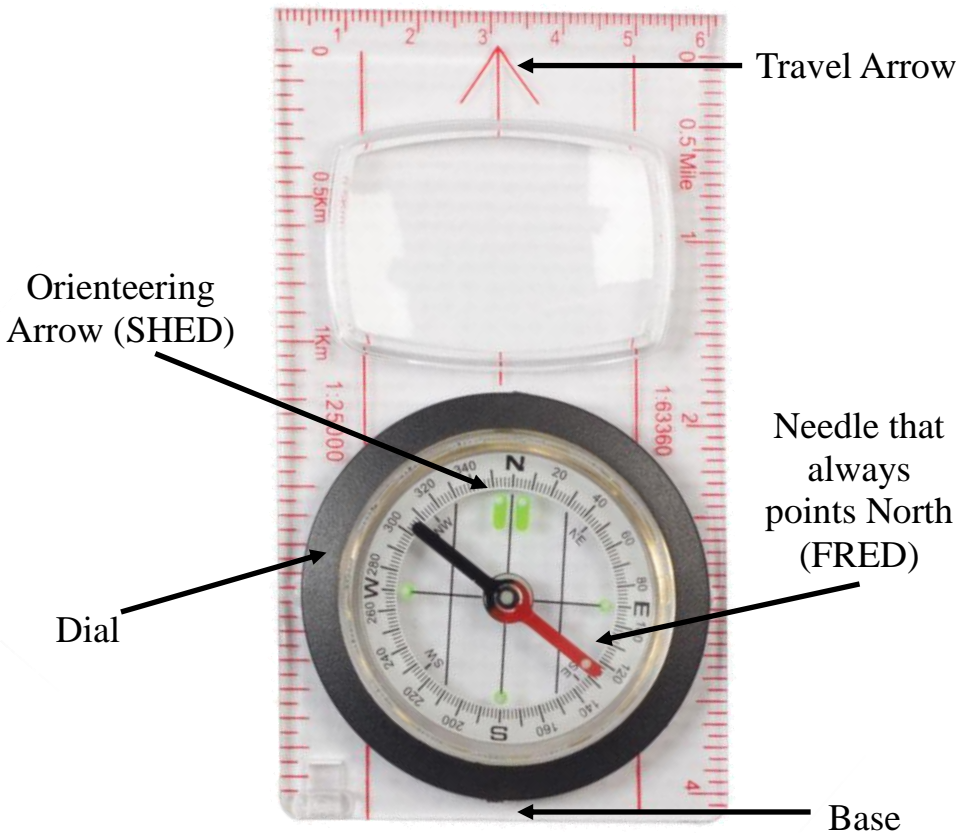


<https://www.facebook.com/atlatlmadness>

Compass Course

1. Turn the Dial so that the degrees match with Travel Arrow at top
2. Put Compass Base in Belly Button
3. Keeping Travel Arrow pointing directly away from you turn your body around until Fred lands in his shed
4. Now, walk the way the Travel Arrow is pointing.

Misc: A Pace is roughly 2 steps-Look where you're headed, not at the compass-The more time you take making sure you're going the right way, the less time you'll waste getting lost!



Tree Trail



- Use a sign to number trees in the woods
- Take leaves and laminated for Fall/Winter months
- Buy Tree Fandex off of Ebay (cheapest place I've found them)
- Create a "quiz" page and have kids go on trail and try to identify the trees

Solar Balloon

A solar balloon is a balloon that gains lift or buoyancy when the air inside of it becomes heated. This heating is due to solar radiation. The dark black balloon absorbs heat. As the air inside the balloon becomes heated, the air molecules begin to speed up causing the air to become less dense than that of the surrounding air, and as an effect, the buoyant force acting on it, which is due to the denseness of the air surrounding the balloon lifts the balloon, causing it to float



Amazon.com: Tedco Toys

Secure | https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00LW7WGRK/ref=oh_aui_detailpage_o02_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1

Apps | Camp | Teistar | Tech | Sites to Check out | Mr. K Links | Youth Group | DT with TubeOffline | Kids | Colony

Tedco Toys School Children Activity 50' Solar Balloon by TEDCO

★★★★☆ 20 customer reviews | 3 answered questions

List Price: \$49.98
Price: **\$15.35 & FREE Shipping** on orders over \$25. Details
You Save: **\$4.63 (23%)**

Get \$40 off instantly: Pay \$0.00 upon approval for the Amazon.com Store Card.

✓prime | Try Fast, Free Shipping

Only 10 left in stock - order soon.

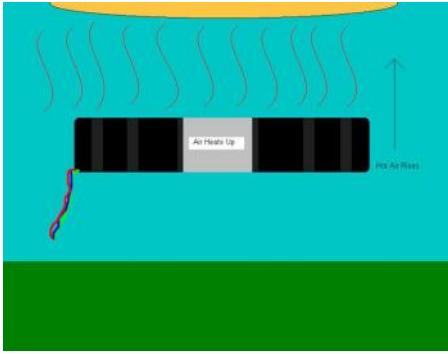
Want it Tuesday, Nov. 7? Order within **12 hrs 26 mins** and choose **Two-Day Shipping** at checkout. Details

Sold by Tucker's Toy Shop and Fulfilled by Amazon. Gift-wrap available.

- Includes one 50 foot long by 29" diameter Solar Balloon, 400 feet of string.
- Great for science classes and the perfect start to a science project.
- Teaches Bernoullis Principle and Pascals Principle.
- Complete instructions and science learning guide.
- Made in USA. For ages 14 plus.

Roll over image to zoom in

Step 1: How it Works



The black color of the trash bags makes the air inside heat up. Everyone knows that hot air rises, thus making

Step 2: Materials



- 30-Gallon **Black** Trash Bags
- A large roll of duct tape (preferably black color), or a large roll of clear packaging tape
- Scissors

Step 3: Prepare the Bags



First, take out about seven garbage bags. These will be the body of the balloon. After

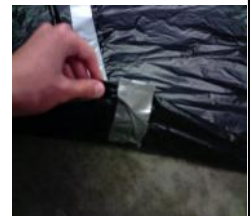
the bags are taken out, cut off the sealed ends of all but two of the bags. These are to extend the body of the tube, and also act as a coupler for each other garbage bag. Then, lay out four garbage bags, including one uncut garbage bag, on the large, clean surface. The surface needs to be clean, otherwise dust and dirt will prevent the tape from sticking to the bags. Finally, place the garbage bags inside one another, about 1 inch. Make sure that you place the bags inside one another so the air can travel through, without getting stuck in any crevices.

Step 4: Start Taping



When taping the garbage bags, make sure that the sealing edge of the bags is nearly dust and dirt free. This is because when you put the tape on, you need an air-tight seal. To start off, put tape on one side of the bags, only going about 3"-4" underneath.

After you do that to all the seams in the first section, flip the bags over and do it again.



Step 5: Inflate



Now, it is time to inflate everything! First, take your handy scissors and cut a small slit into one end of the trash bags. Make this hole just big enough to blow air into using an

air pump, shop vac, leaf blower, etc. Then, fill it up! When your entire balloon becomes completely tight, seal the hole with a piece of duct tape. Also, you might want to attach a string so it won't float away!

Step 6: Have fun!



Take the balloon out into the hot sun and try not to get this stuck 50' high in a tree! Also, try not to take this out on a windy day so it won't float away.



Water Rockets

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gyOzvqmUs4c>



Parts:

(All PVC is schedule 40)

6' of 1/2" Schedule 40 pvc pipe

1 1/4" x 1/2" Bushing

1 1/4" Coupling

1 1/4" x 1" Bushing

1/2" elbows (2)

1/2" caps (4)

1/2" T's (3)

.453 rim hole tubeless tire valve (auto parts store)

Small bottle pvc cement

1/8" steel rod 24" long

Tools:

Drill

5/32 drill bit

3/32 drill bit

9/16" drill bit

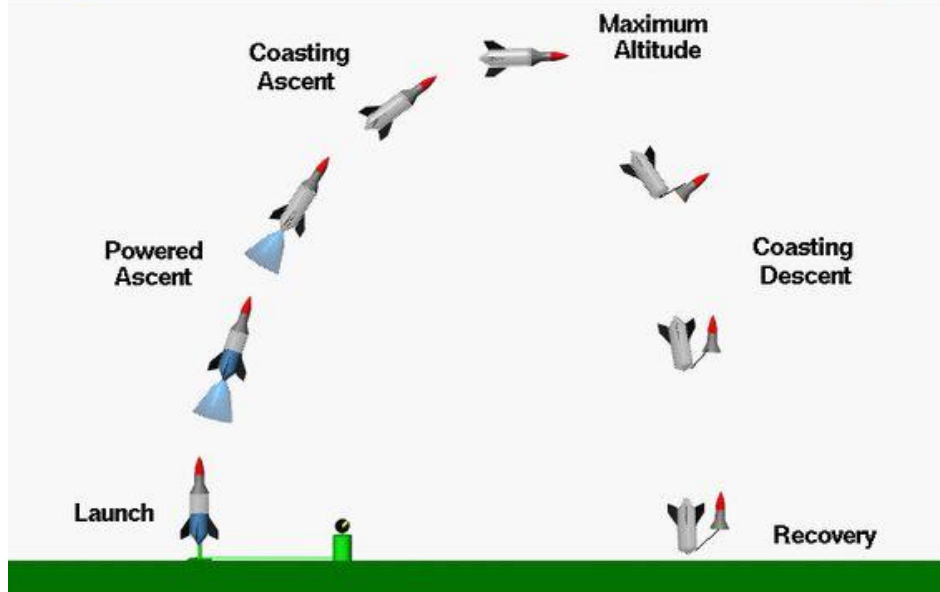
Knife

Wire Cutters

PVC Cutter or hacksaw



Flight of a Water Rocket



Newton's First Law Applied to Rocket Liftoff



"Every object persists in its state of rest or uniform motion in a straight line unless it is compelled to change that state by forces impressed on it."

Before firing:

Object in state of rest, airspeed zero.

Engine fired:

Thrust increases from zero.

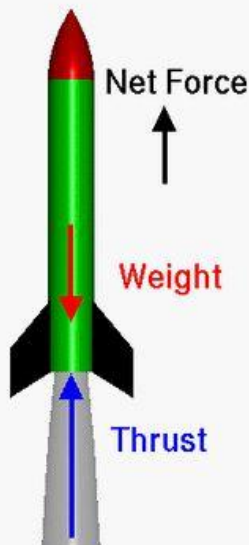
Weight decreases slightly as fuel burns.

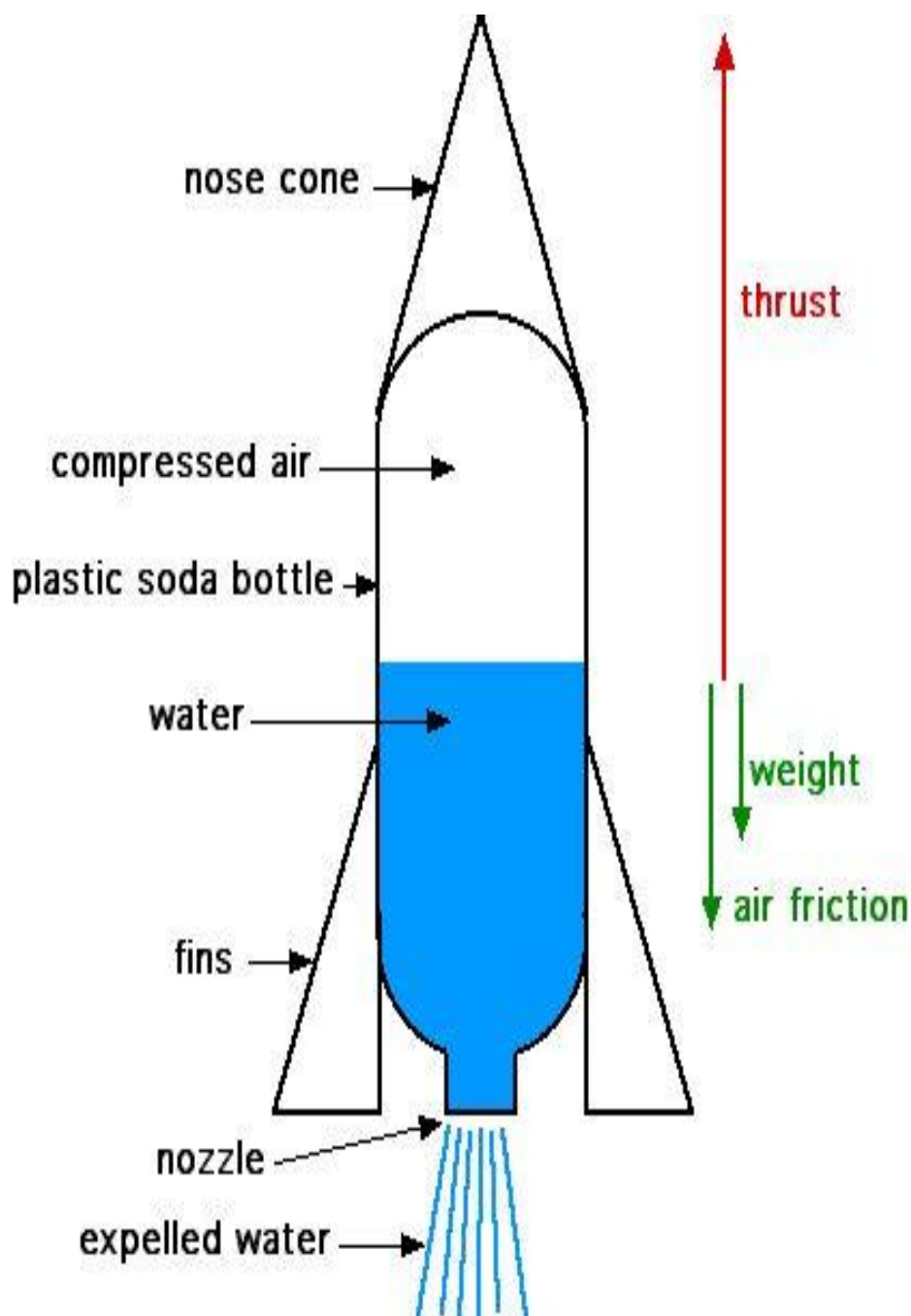
When Thrust is greater than Weight:

Net force (Thrust - Weight) is positive upward.

Rocket accelerates upward

Velocity increases





Nature Center

Top 5 Animals

1. Bearded Dragon

Pros - Easy, Friendly

Cons - Big Tank, Smelly



2. Axolotl

Pros - Unique

Cons - Fragile, Can't Touch



3. Corn Snake

Pros - Tame, Soft Bite

Cons - Snake, Eats Mice



4. Leopard Geckos

Pros - Easy, Friendly

Cons - Tail



5. Hissing Cockroaches

Pros - Easy, No teeth

Cons - Fresh Food



Solar Prints

Amazon.com

\$11.99 for 40

<https://goo.gl/NJhySZ>

What you need:

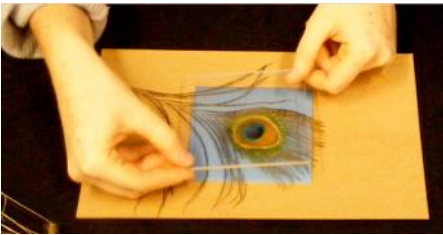
- sunprint paper
- acrylic sheet
- Cardboard
- a tub full of water
- fun and interesting objects to print.



Step 1 Arrange your objects on a piece of Sunprint paper out of the reach of the sun.

The blue molecules embedded in the paper are sensitive to ultra-violet light. For best results, prepare your print in a place where the sun's light cannot reach the paper as you arrange objects on top of it.

Direct sunlight will expose the paper quickly, but even ambient light in the shade, or in a room with a big window will cause slow exposure of the paper.



Step 2 Place the acrylic pressing sheet on top to flatten and hold your items to the Sunprint paper.

Using the acrylic pressing sheet when taking prints of flat or almost-flat objects will help to sharpen the edges between blue and white in your final print. The ambient sunlight outdoors will find its way underneath the edges of your objects if they are not

pressed firmly to the paper, and you will get Sunprints with blended edges.



Step 3 Take your Sunprint outside and lay it in direct sunlight for 2-5 minutes.

The areas of the paper exposed to the sun will fade from blue to white. When you see most of the color disappear from the paper, your print has been fully exposed. If no direct sunlight is available, don't worry—just expose your print a little longer and wait for the same fading effect.

Under cloud cover, the process will take 5-20 minutes depending on the thickness of the clouds.

What is happening in this step? Two crucial molecules in the paper are interacting, forming a new molecule. Their interaction is initiated by specific wavelengths of ultra-violet light. The new molecule is colorless so that as the blue molecules are converted, the white of the paper base begins to show through. Areas of the paper covered by your objects still contain the original blue molecule, so they remain blue.



Step 4 Rinse your Sunprint in water.

Watch the white turn into blue and the blue turn into white.

To get the deepest blue that the paper can give, leave it in the water for a while: 1-5 minutes. There are two exciting things happening underwater. First, the original blue compound is water soluble so that when

you immerse it in the bath, the water carries it away, leaving only the white paper base in those areas. Second, the colorless compound whose formation was caused by the sun's energy is not water soluble, so it cannot wash away in the water bath. It is sensitive to the water in another way. Just as the Sun's light stimulated a chemical change in the previous step, the water stimulates another chemical change. The water causes an oxidation reaction that turns the colorless compound into the deep blue of a finished Sunprint.

Step 5 Lay your Sunprint flat on an absorbent surface and allow it to dry.

You can use a paper towel, or a piece of cardboard as a bed for your Sunprint while it dries. Putting it on something absorbent helps to avoid the formation of water spots by drawing the water from the Sunprint paper. When you take your paper out of the water, it will probably not have finished oxidizing. The water remaining in the paper

will do the job before it evaporates. By the time it is all gone you should have a beautiful deep blue Sunprint!



Shelter Building

Lean-to



1. Look for a good building site.

A lean-to is a simple outdoor construction, and only requires something for branches to "lean" against.

Long boulders or fallen trees can be ideal for acting as a horizontal

brace to lean other sticks or brush against. Any large, immobile object can work.

2. Find sticks to lean against the horizontal brace.

These sticks should be somewhat sturdy, as they will form a side of the shelter. Be sure that there is enough room between them, the brace, and the ground for you to crawl inside comfortably. You should have just enough space under your brace for you to crawl into. The more extra space you have there, the harder it will be to keep yourself warm. If you can, keep the lean-to's profile low to ground. This will help keep you further out of the line of wind, and won't attract attention. This is helpful if you are trying to avoid detection, or otherwise stay out of sight.



3. Pile small debris over the frame.

You can use leaves, grass, and moss to build a wall on the outside of your lean-to. These will provide further insulation and protection from the elements. Nearly



any small forest debris will work. Just make sure to pack it tightly on the wall frame so it won't blow away readily. You can pile more of this debris on the floor and interior of your lean-to to provide extra insulation.

Debris Hut



1. Find a good location.

You'll need a tree stump, or a tree with a low crook that you can comfortably lodge a branch into. In addition, you'll need to be in an area with lots of sticks and debris to cover your frame. Make sure you are away from falling branches or other hazards. Your debris hut will trap heat and keep you warm, but won't protect well against falling objects

2. Prop a branch against the stump.

You'll want a long branch, probably close to 8 feet, that is sturdy enough to support your weight without breaking. The space underneath this branch between where it rests on the tree and sits on the ground should be just large enough for you to fit in.



3. Set up ribbing sticks.

Find long sticks to create the frame, or ribbing, of your hut. These sticks should be long enough to lean against the horizontal branch. As you get further away from the tree stump,

they will get shorter. These sticks only need to lean against the branch, but if you have rope or twine you can bind them together for a little more stability. Make sure you leave space between two of the ribs for an entranceway to your hut. The ribbing sticks need to be spread widely enough apart so that you can fit underneath them. Six inches on either side of your body is a good rule to follow. Additionally, they should be steep enough to let water or snow run off.

4. Fill out the frame.

After you have set up this frame, add more sticks perpendicularly on top of this wall frame to create latticework. This will give you something to pile debris on without having it fall on top of you while sleeping.





5. Pile debris on the frame.

This will be any natural material you can find nearby, so leaves, grass, or pine needles. Ideally your debris layer will be 3 feet thick to provide solid insulation. Thicker is always

better. Just remember to leave an entranceway for you to get in. After you finish the outer layer, build another insulation layer on the inside walls of your frame. This interior insulation should be about 6 inches thick. You want your debris to be as dry as possible. If you don't have enough dry material to cover the whole hut, make sure the driest and softest material is inside your hut, closest to your body. If you are in deep winter, or an Arctic-type environment where there is little debris, you can pile thick snow on the frame instead. The snow needs to stay cold so it doesn't melt, potentially soaking your stuff, or collapsing on top of you.

6. Add more branches to the outside.

Once you have packed your debris tightly on the frame, lay a few more branches on top of your hut. This will help keep your insulation material from blowing away in strong winds.



Fire Starting

Piece of Flint

Amazon.com

\$12.50

[https://
goo.gl/8KgWnc](https://goo.gl/8KgWnc)



Primitive Fire
English Flint Stone for Flint and Steel Firemaking
★★★★☆ 79 customer reviews

Best Deal

Price: \$12.50 & FREE Shipping on orders over \$25. Details

In stock on March 27, 2018.

Order it now

Sold by Primitive Fire. * and Fulfilled by Amazon. Gift-wrap available.

- High-quality English Flint Piece.
- Sparks easily!
- Organic and irregularly shaped. (Pictures are examples)
- Between 2-3 inches long and 1-2 inches wide.
- May come in one or two pieces.

New (1) from \$12.50 & FREE shipping on orders over \$25.00. Details



Budget Prepper
Solar Powered Lighter Camping Fire starter And Survival
Tool

★★★★☆ 6 customer reviews

Available from these sellers.

fire starter

New (3) from \$9.48 & FREE shipping

Report incorrect product information.

Construction and
Landscaping Event
Shop now



Solar Lighter

Amazon.com

\$9.50

[https://goo.gl/
ycUcQ8](https://goo.gl/ycUcQ8)

Flint Ligher

Walmart.com

\$5.40

<https://goo.gl/xdTETH>



Dry Oakum

Grannystore.com

\$8.00 lb

<https://goo.gl/4xwtPX>

Toad Painting



- **Materials:**

- Card Stock or Matte Paper
- Cheap Acrylic Paint from Walmart
- Toad (Frogs jump too high & are too slippery)

- **Instructions:**

- Paint bottom of Toad with small amount of paint
- Place on paper & Let it hop around or kindly encourage it to
- After Less than 1 min, place toad in water and make sure to get all paint off
- Repeat
- (Toad most likely will pee on your paper! Congratulations, now you have a watercolor!)

Cloud ID

Cloud Viewer Window
Teachers pay Teachers
\$FREE
<https://goo.gl/tEFtDh>

Lesson & Standards
Nature Watch
\$FREE
<https://goo.gl/uzimYf>



Mad Science

5 Gallon Air Cannon
The King of Random
<https://goo.gl/tERw4n>

50 Gallon Air Cannon
The King of Random
<https://goo.gl/8LuzQT>

Oobleck
Instructables
<https://goo.gl/yZXv3Y>

States of Matter Lesson Plan
<https://goo.gl/5241Wf>



Clay Creations



- If you have a creek or pond, find a shoreline near it where the dirt turns into a good claylike substance
- To harvest, dig out with a shovel and put into plastic bags. Add about 3 tablespoons of water to keep the clay moist and close the bag so that it is air secure
- Bring out when ready to make something. Tell Campers that they will need to knead the clay quite a bit to make it moldable. As well they will need to remove any rocks as they are kneading.
- Have some cups of water around to help with smoothing of surfaces as they create. Let campers know not to use too much water because as it dries it will cause it to crack and break.
- When they begin to create, give them toothpicks and kabob sticks for skeletons inside their creations.
- As clay dries. If some parts are thicker than others, it will take longer to dry and crack. To fix, you can cover with a plastic shopping bag that forces it to dry slower²⁰ and more evenly.

Creek Study

Outcomes::

Cooperation, Environmental awareness, Observation skills, Respect

Objectives:

1. Explore a small creek
2. Examine living organisms
3. Discuss observation skills and camouflage

Age: 6 and up

Number of Participants: 6-8

Time: Approximately 1 hour

Equipment/Materials:

- Strainer or catching net
- Magnifying Glass
- Pond Scope
- Observation Pan

1. Locate a slow moving, very shallow creek with a few spots where the water is eight inches to a foot deep.
2. Before disturbing the water, find a place, where the group can sit quietly near the water for a few minutes. Ask the group to see if they can spot any

wildlife. What do they hear? Where is this water coming from? Where is it going? Are there any signs that animals have been near the stream?

Frogs will probably be the first to spot them and hop into the water. Snakes or turtles may be sunning themselves. It is better not to disturb them by trying to catch them. If your area has any dangerous snakes be sure to check the area carefully.

3. Divide the group into pairs and explain that they should work with their buddy. They should also stay close to the leader while near the water so they can share what they find and everyone will be safe. Explain that if everyone tramps in the water it will get muddy and they won't be able to see anything.
4. First stand at the edge and look in. What kinds of bugs do they see? Are they on top of the water? Flying? Swimming under the water? (water boatman) Do they see any fish? Are they easy to see?
5. Use the pond scope to look into deeper areas. Why does this help them to see better under water? (sunlight reflects on the surface)
6. Turn over a few rocks and see if they discover anything else. They might see crawdads or small fish.
7. Use the strainer to scoop up a little debris from the bottom and put it in the observation pan. Examine it with the magnifying glass. Some aquatic crea-

tures are so small they can't be seen without a magnifying glass or microscope. Be sure they return the animals to the water where they found them.

8. Discuss with the participants what they saw. Was the water clear? What would it look like after a rain? Why? Did they see any water striders? How do they stay on top of the water? Did they see water boatmen? Why are they called water boatmen?
9. Ask the participants: Why is it important to return animals to where they found them? {Stress the importance of every living creature in the food cycle.} Ask them if their observation skills improved as they began to look more carefully?

Add-Ons

Materials:

- Large can with top and bottom removed and inside spray-painted black
- large rubber band
- clear plastic bag
- Scissors
- two sheets of newspaper
- one half sheet of colored construction paper

Pond Scope Instructions:

1. To make a pond scope, cut the plastic bag so that it is flat and use the rubber band to secure it around the bottom of the can.
2. Immerse the pond scope so that the bottom of the

can is slightly under water. It will be easier to see beneath the surface because you are keeping the sunlight from reflecting on the surface of the water.

Fish Camouflage Activity:

1. Take a sheet of newspaper and cut out six to ten fish shapes.
2. Cut two fish out of the half sheet of colored paper.
3. Scatter all the paper fish on the other sheet of newspaper and lay it on the ground.
4. Line the participants up and ask them to close their eyes.
5. Lead them in a circle around the newspaper.
6. Tell them that on your signal they are to open their eyes and count the number of fish they see.
7. Count to 10 and then tell them to close their eyes again. Ask them how many fish they saw.
8. Let them open their eyes to check out their answers.
9. Did they see any fish besides the colored ones? Talk about camouflage

Night Hike

Psalm 56:3 - When I am afraid, I put my trust in you

Psalm 27:1 - The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

Job 12:22 - He uncovers the deeps out of darkness and bring deep darkness to light.

Black as Night?

Have the whole group form a circle and link hands. Look down at the ground. Talk for a moment about the things the group will be exploring on this night exploration. Remind the group that it is a dark night, and that some people even talk about things being as "black as night..." but is it really?

As the group, as they still stare at the ground, what color the sky is. Many people will say "Black." Ask the group to slowly look up at the sky. They will realize that the ground, and the silhouette of the trees may appear black but the sky is a bright navy blue.

Pirate Eye Patch

Why do pirates wear patches? The answer is simple, the pirates cover one eye until they capture a boat. Then as they head into the dark black hull of the ship, they uncover their eye and search for hiding enemies or hidden loot. The story below gives students a chance to play with their night vision. Have the campers sit in a circle and cover one eye with a hand. This is the patch that blocks out all light. Now light a candle and tell a story for about 1 minute.

Blow out the candle and have the campers switch their eye patch. Look around. Now switch from eye to eye. Which

eye has better night vision, the eye with the patch or the eye that sees by candlelight? It takes people about 45 minutes to fully gain their night vision, so pirates keep one eye in the dark, under a patch.

Disappearing Head

Disappearing Head Trick: Pair up campers and have each focus on his/her partner's face. They will notice their partners' heads begin to disappear. Simply shift your eyes back and forth to make the head reappear.

What would happen if you stared straight ahead on the trail? It would disappear because the cones in the center of our eyes need light to work. To avoid getting lost at night, use your peripheral vision, the rods.

Night Vision

How has your night vision changed since the night hike began? Are you able to make out different shapes? Can you see any colors? Many will believe they can see color, but the next activity will prove them wrong. Explain that light allows us to see color, referring back to cones in our eyes. Rods give us night vision but only allow us to see shades of gray.

Give each camper a piece of white or colored scrap paper and an unwrapped crayon. Ask them to draw a picture of something they enjoy about camp. On the other side, write what crayon color they think they have. Return the crayons to the bag and have the campers put their drawing in their pocket. At the end of the hike they can use a light to see if the color they wrote matches the color of the drawing.

Smell at Night

Nocturnal animals have ways to better see and hear in the dark. Canines have a strong sense of smell for hunt-

ing food and sniffing out danger in the dark. Fox, coyotes, and even pet dogs have cold, wet noses that attract and hold scent molecules, making them excellent odor detectors. These animals keep their noses to the ground or high in the wind following scent tracks as they hunt for prey. Pass around a mildly scented canister or natural object (garlic mustard, pine needles, etc.). Next, place a drop of water on each camper's finger to wet his/her nose. Snow is a good substitute in the winter. Again pass around the same object to be smelled. Which gave a stronger sense of smell, a dry nose or a wet nose?

Scent Hike

If there are two hike leaders, one leader can lay a short trail participants can follow from tree to tree using only their sense of smell. Vanilla Extract or Lemon Juice work especially well for this activity.

Sparkle Party

Give the students pieces of Wintergreen Lifesavers (Wintergreen Altoids also work, with an extra kick!). Campers should try to dry their mouths before chewing to better their sparking ability. Why does it spark? It's called triboluminescence and is the result of fracturing sugar crystals. The spark is a safe and natural chemical reaction, giving off a small burst of energy that is visible to our eye.

Please find a partner and face them, holding out your hand. Unwrap your candy, but leave the piece in your hand. Open your mouth and breathe in and out several times to dry out your mouth. On the count of three, place them in the back of your mouth and crunch down with your mouth open so your partner can witness the secret! 1...2....3....

Solo Hike

Gather the group in a dark spot of trail. Point out that you can often see where the trail is not by looking DOWN, but by looking UP and seeing where the trees are thinner overhead. Allow the campers to spread out on the trail while you lead the way. Form a line and give each camper a few feet of space. Walking in silence, the campers will experience a sense of being alone in the woods. Remember to have an adult in the back to keep the group together.

Modifications: For a nervous group, use a rope that everyone can hold on to with a few steps between each camper.

Insects at night

Have two kids hold a white sheet between them and shine a flashlight against the sheet behind them. Wait and see how many different insects there are that fly to the light.

Animal feeders

Fill feeders and lay honey/peanut butter mixture out on logs to attract animals. Using a red covered flashlight, see if anyone will take the bait. Discuss who would be out at night to hunt or be hunted.

Watcher in the Road

Station one person in the road with a dim flashlight as the watcher. This person is blindfolded. All else should try to sneak past without being caught. If the watcher hears someone, they wave a flashlight in that direction. If the hit someone with their beam, that person starts back at the beginning. The first to sneak past to a designated area is the new watcher. Discuss ways of sneaking/being silent after the game.

Brightest Match

Tell the campers that you've got the brightest match in the world. When they don't believe you, strike it and they will be surprised how their eyes, which have adjusted to the dark and dilated, react to the light. Our pupils dilate (open up) to let more in so we can see well. Nocturnal animals have a reflective coating called a tapetum that reflects light back to the rods and cones twice to stimulate them more and allow them to see much better in the dark. Humans and pigs don't have this coating.



Knots & Ropes



Knot So Fast Game

Amazon.com

\$20

<https://goo.gl/327TxZ>

Essential Scouting Knot Videos

Scouting Magazine

<https://goo.gl/i9daeS>

Rope Making Machine

King of Random

Part 1 - <https://goo.gl/bPL145>

Part 2 - <https://goo.gl/XzZBMy>

Part 3 - <https://goo.gl/B99aVw>

Be sure to watch all 3 videos first as he changes some things in the later videos

Backyard Buffet

Find plants in your area that are safe to eat.

Know for certain that this is the correct plant!!!!

Some we use:

- Sassafras Tree - when you break open a leaf, it smells like Fruit Loops and the roots smell like root beer. You can boil the roots and make a sassafras Tea
- Wild Onion - Only chomp into if it really smells like onion
- Hickory Nuts - Have to crack the outer husk and inner shell to get to the brain-like nut (Taste like pecans) Make sure the nut is veiny like a pecan. Buckeyes are similar, but a smooth rounded nut, and are poisonous.
- Cattails - the roots can be cooked and are quite tasty
- Violets - the flowers are tart and can be eaten raw and uncooked
- Dandelion - Flowers (minus the green parts) are edible and have more beta-carotene than carrots. Add them to salads, bread and fry them (like mushrooms), Young leaves offer the mildest flavor and are a gourmet salad green, rich with vitamins. Harvest the roots, dry, roast and brew them for a coffee substitute.

Scavenger Cards



1. Go out and take pictures of plants, trees, animals, etc that you would find on a hike through your woods
2. Create "Flash Cards" with the picture and name of the item on the front and information about that item on the back
3. Laminate them and use a ring to hold together.
4. Give out to groups taking hikes and have them go on a Scavenger Hunt for the items

Outdoor Cooking

Pudgy Pie Makers

Menards.com

\$5

<https://goo.gl/zUnT1k>

Pie Iron Creations Book

Amazon.com

\$10

<https://goo.gl/JurHKp>

Foil Dinner Instructions

1. Start the Fire (you will use the hot coals to cook, so you need time for that wood to get down to that)
2. Lay out square foil
3. Put food in it (we use hamburger, mushrooms, onions, peppers, carrots, potatoes, baby corn, water chestnuts, etc)
4. Add 1/4 stick of butter (sliced and spread throughout)
5. Add seasoning (Mrs Dash, Salt & Pepper, Lowerys)
6. Fold up sides and crimp together. Make sure to leave an air pocket inside
7. Set on hot coals for 30 min (flip at about 15 min)
8. Take out of fire, open, and let cool

Recreational Tree Climbing



Info About it

Tree Climbers International
treeclimbing.com

At Home Training

Tree Climbers International
\$90

<https://goo.gl/zKD7pW>

WHY

- **Tree climbing is good exercise.** Tree climbing is not only fun, but it's also an excellent workout. Though it's not nearly as demanding as it appears, climbing is great exercise for the arms, legs, and back. Climbers work many muscle groups they often don't use elsewhere. The extra bonus to this exercise is that it is stimulating and never boring.

- **Tree climbing is very safe.** When climbers carefully follow the basic "do and don't" rules, they are virtually assured of a safe climbing experience.
- **Trees are everywhere!** You don't have to look far to find a good climbing tree, especially if you're in a natural area. Even in an urbanized setting you can usually find a tree worth climbing.
- **Trees are alive and natural.** There is something very wonderful about getting outdoors and into the branches of something which is alive. Humans find peace and relaxation there, as well as a totally different perspective on what they see during their every day lives.
- **All your senses come alive.** A whole new perspective is added to the climbing experience through the feeling of touch as the tree moves and sound as the wind whistles through the leaves.
- **Tree climbing is cost-effective.** Once you've made the initial layout for your basic gear, there are very few further expenses.
- **You don't have to build an expensive structure.** Rope courses, climbing walls, and alpine towers are expensive to build and maintain. They have to be continually inspected for defects because the structures are man-made. While trees need to be inspected every so often, there's no other work to do before you have a perfect climbing structure!
- **Tree climbing is a year-round sport.** During the hot months, you have the canopy to provide an awning for shade. In winter, the awning is taken down, and there's no barrier to the warm sunlight.

Smoke Printing



Sounds dangerous but it is not with proper set-up and supervision. Follow the directions, have water on hand and it will be fine!

Ages: 8 and up

Materials needed:

- 6" or so candles in sturdy base..you need to be able to pass the paper just in the top of the flame so pillar/jar candles do not work
- white card stock cut into two 8 1/2 by 5 1/2 pieces
- scrap paper - can be used copy paper
- matches or lighter
- white or light colored cards or stationary to print on
- a couple pans of water (.1 per 4 campers is best to drop the paper in in case it starts on fire!)
- leaves or ferns. (need to be small!)

Before Printing:

1. Cover tables with plastic or brown roll paper
2. Place a candle in front of each child...light after demo and when they are ready to start
3. Place a pan of water in the center of the table for each 4 campers to be able to reach 4. Give each child a piece

of card stock

4. The object is to hold the ends of the paper and move it in the top of the flame to get the soot from the flame to accumulate on the bottom of the paper. Keep it moving and it will not catch on fire! (The sign you are close to burning the paper is that a small brown spot will start to show on the top of the paper. Just move it and it will not catch on fire)
5. If it catches on fire, drop it in the pan of water and start with a new piece of paper. (When you demo, it's a good idea to show them what happens when it catches on fire so they will see what it looks like and what to do with the paper, if you casually drop it in the pan it will not seem as dramatic)
6. Take the paper away from the flame and turn it over to see how black it is. Keep putting it back along the flame until it is black as you can make it.
7. When it is blackened, go to a clean table and start to do the printing.

To print:

1. Set the blackened paper with the black side up on the table.
2. Set your leaf or fern on the black with the vein side DOWN.
3. Place a piece of scrap paper over the leaf and rub with your fingers all over the page to be sure to get the whole leaf/fern. You should start to see an imprint of the leaf coming through the top of the paper. Take off the paper and look at the bottom of the leaf/fern. If you think it needs more soot, put the leaf back down, put the paper on top and rub.
4. When the leaf/fern is coated in soot, throw the scrap paper away, set the leaf/fern down and wash your hands.
5. Then, take the leaf/fern and set it vein side DOWN on the card or paper where you want to print. It is important to not let the leaf/fern move once you have placed it on the clean paper.

6. Set a clean piece of scrap paper on top of the leaf and hold it down with one hand.
 7. Carefully and firmly, rub the paper with your other hand to again see an imprint on top. This will transfer the soot onto the paper.
 8. When you think you have rubbed enough, remove the paper, throw it away and carefully remove the leaf and throw it away.
 9. You will now have a lovely, gray leaf/fern print on your paper.
 10. Let it sit for about 15 minutes and it will not smear.
- If you want to print more than one leaf/fern on the same card/paper, wait the 15 minutes and then print the new leaf/fern.



CAMPFESSION
THE DAY BEFORE I LEAVE FOR
CAMP FEELS LIKE THE
LONGEST DAY EVER

Sundial



Instructions

<http://www.sunclocks.com/>

Easiest thing to do:

1. Buy the concrete steps at a Menards/Home Depot
2. Figure out where you want it
3. Put 1 step down where you plan to have campers stand
4. At each hour, go stand up straight on that step and mark with another step where your shadow is
5. Do this for each hour.
6. If you want the sun dial to work each month, you will need to repeat this process in the middle of each month.

Paint Chip Hunt



Instructions

1. Collect lots of paint chips from your local home store (these are free for the taking but I would still ask the paint person there, they have always been willing to help us out!)
2. Divide them in color groups or even a variety for each team.
3. Send your groups out to find a match in nature
4. Added twist is give them a camera to document the process

Unnatural Trail

What

Campers search for items that do not belong in the natural environment.

Supplies:

- Small unnatural objects (pipe cleaners, toys, ribbons, etc.)
- Trail or grassy area

Instructions:

1. Before campers arrive, hide unnatural items along a trail or in a grassy area.
2. Explain that something along the trail does not belong in nature.
3. Walk the trail slowly and encourage campers to search carefully.
4. When an item is found, pause and discuss why it stands out.
5. Continue until all items are found or time runs out.

Bonus:

- Increase difficulty by camouflaging items with matching colors.
- Tie this into predator and prey camouflage lessons.

Ant Lasso

What:

A close-up exploration game that shows campers how much life exists in a tiny patch of ground.

Supplies:

- Hula hoops or loops of rope

Instructions:

1. Divide campers into small groups of three or four.
2. Each group tosses their hoop onto a grassy area.
3. For 10 minutes, campers observe everything inside the circle.
4. They look for insects, plants, and small movements.
5. Groups share the most interesting thing they discovered.

Bonus:

- Provide magnifying glasses or Handheld Microscopes for extra impact.

Nature Art

What:

Create artwork using only materials found outdoors

Supplies:

- Leaves
- Sticks
- Rocks
- Pinecones

Instructions:

1. Divide campers into small groups of two or three.
2. Give boundaries for where they can collect materials.
3. Remind them to use only fallen items.
4. Groups arrange their materials into pictures, patterns, or sculptures.



Camp Garden

What:

Planting, growing, and caring for food or flowers while teaching responsibility and patience.

Supplies:

- Garden space or containers
- Seeds or seedlings
- Watering cans
- Gardening tools

Instructions:

1. Prepare the garden area before campers arrive.
2. Teach campers what they will be planting and why.
3. Assign small groups to plant seeds or seedlings.
4. Schedule time for watering and weeding each day.
5. Harvest vegetables or flowers when ready and use them in snacks or crafts.

Optional:

- Grow plants that can be found in the Bible

Touch a Tree

What:

Touch a Tree is a sensory memory game where campers learn to notice small details in nature by relying on touch instead of sight.

Supplies:

- Blindfold

Instructions:

1. Pair campers up.
2. One camper is blindfolded while their partner leads them to a tree.
3. The blindfolded camper feels the tree's bark, shape, and branches.
4. They are led back to the starting point.
5. Blindfold is removed and they try to find their tree again.

Bark Rubbing

Supplies:

- Paper
- Crayons (peeled)

Instructions:

1. Give each camper a piece of paper and a crayon.
2. Place the paper flat against a tree trunk.
3. Rub the side of the crayon over the paper to reveal bark patterns.
4. Try several different trees to compare results.



Mud Painting

What:

Activity using dirt, water, and natural pigments to create textured paintings

Supplies:

- Dirt or mud
- Water
- Paper or pavement
- Crushed leaves, flowers, or grass
- Optional powdered tempera paint

Instructions:

1. Mix dirt and water to create mud paint.
2. Give campers brushes or let them use hands.
3. Paint on paper, sidewalks, or trees.
4. Add crushed leaves or flowers for color and texture.
5. Let artwork dry naturally.



Termite Paths

What:

Creating paths for termites

Supplies:

- Papermate Ballpoint Pens (only this brand)
- Paper
- Termites (usually found in and around rotting wood)
- Paintbrush (used to handle termites as they are very fragile)

Instructions:

1. Termites use pheromones to communicate and the Papermate ballpoint pens mimic that smell
2. Campers can draw lines and squiggly paths and (as long as it's fresh) can place a termite on the paper and it will follow the path



Plant Pounding

Supplies:

- Fresh leaves
- Paper or white fabric
- Rubber mallet

Instructions:

1. Hit the leaf with the hammer and pound out the chlorophyll onto the paper/fabric
2. Do your best not to move the leaf
3. Make your own "flower" or "vine" on the paper



Nature Weaving

Supplies:

- 4 sticks about 2 feet long (Frame)
- 20 pieces of twine to make vertical parallel lines connecting the sticks
- Collected plant material

Instructions:

1. Campers make their frame and then tie the twine in parallel lines from top to bottom
2. Collect grass, flowers, stems and weave between the twine



Mini Windmill

Go to this site:

<https://rebrand.ly/atqulv6>

And make a miniature wind turbine.

Test with a fan and have campers change up their blades for more speed/spins



Battle Botz

Materials:

- 4 RC cars (\$50 from Walmart are great cars! Can run up to 8 at a time: <https://bit.ly/2N26qOM>)
- Rat Traps
- Balloons
- Cardboard
- Skewers
- Masking Tape
- Markers

To Play:

- First take off all cheap plastic from the cars
- Tell Campers rules:
 - Goal is to pop other teams balloon
 - If fall on side, you have 10 sec to get back up
 - no cardboard on back end of car where balloon goes
 - Time limit to make

- Let campers add cardboard and skewers to cars and decorate
- You blow up all the balloon and tie on the back bumper of car
- Set up a rink of tables (to keep the cars confined)
- Place rat traps around as hazards
- Optional: Create a ramp to go on
- Let campers attack each other. If balloons do not pop or they don't get eliminated for being on side, set a time limit and choose best fighter.



Marble Coasters

Materials:

- 4 tubes of Foam Pipe Insulation
- 1 Marble
- Roll of Masking Tape
- Cardboard Boxes

Rules:

- Teams will be making a roller coaster for their marble that contains:
 - 1 upside down loop
 - 1 turn that is at least 90 degrees
 - 2 consecutive hills
- Use the boxes to get height
- Cannot tape to tables or floors
- Tubing can be cut in half long-ways for more track



Floating Cups

Materials:

- 2 Red Solo Cups
- Masking Tape
- Rubber bands

Instructions:

1. Tape cups together at bottom
2. Attach the rubber bands together to make one long rubberband
3. Wrap the rubberband around the cup so that when you sling it, it will force the cup to spin
4. Slingshot the cup

Video Instructions: <https://bit.ly/2N4f0fZ>



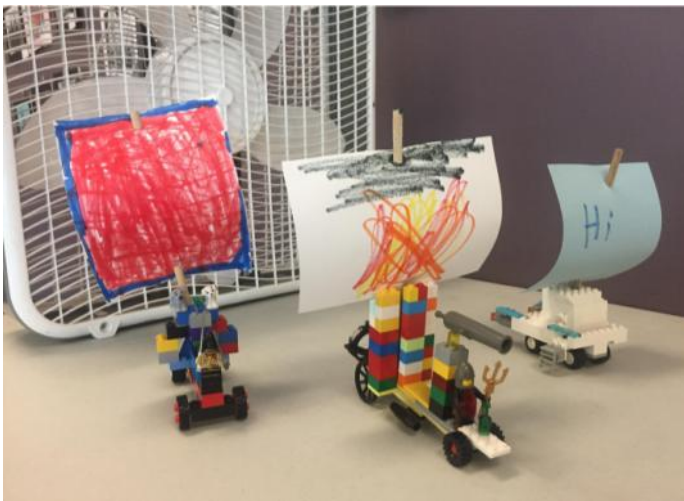
Wind Racers

Materials:

- Legos
- Lego Car base
- Paper
- Skewer or small Dowel Rod
- Masking Tape
- Fan
- Markers or Colored Pencils

Activity:

1. Build a car out of the Legos
2. Color the paper for your sail
3. Put 2 holes in the paper on opposite ends to attach skewer to
4. Tape skewer to car
5. Use the fan and see whose car is the fastest



Air Rockets

Materials:

- cardstock paper
 - 1/2 sheet cut long way
 - 1/4 sheet (2 needed)
- 2 Liter Bottle
- 1/2 inch PVC Pipe
 - 3 foot for bottle end
 - 3 foot for launcher
 - several 1 foot pieces to use as a guide for rockets
- 45 Degree angle PVC connector
- 2 foot long 2x6 board
- 2 metal pipe straps



To Build: Rockets:

1. Use the spare PVC pieces to roll up 1/2 sheet of cardstock and then tape. (you do not need the PVC pipe anymore)
2. Use 1 of the 1/4 sheets to make a nose cone and taping to one end of rocket
3. Use the other 1/4 sheet and cut to make Right Triangle fins and tape to opposite end (4 fins is best)

To Launch Rockets:

1. connect and glue both of the 3 foot long PVC pipes together with 45 degree connector
2. Using the pipe straps, attach one of the 3 foot pipes to the board for stability
3. Set the board down and put the 2 litter bottle on the overlapping PVC attached to board
4. Place the rocket on the pvc sticking up
5. Step on bottle hard to launch rocket!

Mini Rockets

Materials:

- Film Canister
- Water
- Alka-Seltzer Tablets

Activity:

1. Half Fill the Canister with Water
2. Drop one tablet in the canister and quickly put the lid on
3. Set it on the table upside down
4. Step back and wait

Optional:

- add paper rocket body and nosecone and fins for a better flight



Dry Ice Bubbles

Materials:

- Large Glass Mixing bowl 3/4 full of warm water
- Food Coloring
- Dry Ice
- Small cup
- Liquid Dish Soap
- Long piece of cotton fabric

How to do it:

1. Put a few droplets of food coloring in water
2. Put a piece of Dry ice in the bowl
3. Then in a small cup mix liquid soap and a bit of water
4. Place the piece of fabric in the soapy water
5. Run it over the top of the Dry ice mixture to create a bubble film that will then fill with dry ice "smoke"



Marble Run

Materials:

- Peg board
- Several Pegs (small dowel rod to fit in peg board)
- Several Rubber bands
- Marble

Activity:

- Put the pegs in spots on the peg board and stretch the rubber bands between them to create a track
- Race your marble down the track

Tip:

- Don't forget to add rubber band walls on side to protect the marble from escaping



Solar Oven Smores

Materials:

- Cardboard Pizza Box
- Scissors or Box Cutter
- Aluminum Foil
- Clear Tape
- Black Construction Paper
- Plastic Warp
- Glue
- Pie Plate
- Smores Ingredients (Graham Cracker, Chocolate, Marshmallow)



Instructions:

1. Open up the Pizza box and glue the black paper to the bottom
2. With the Pizza Box together and closed, cut a "door" out of the top lid. About 1" from sides
3. Make a crease along top flap, so that the "door" can stay open
4. Attach Aluminum foil to the top flap so it will reflect down onto the pizza box
5. Set pie plate and Smores Ingredients inside
6. Cover them by wrapping Plastic wrap over (helps keep hot air inside)
7. Set in the sun (make sure the foil is reflecting the sun down onto the Marshmallows)
8. Takes about 2 hours for marshmallows to become gooey

Taxidermy

In the Bag:

- Taxidermy
- Small Fun Facts Cards about each of the animals in the bag
- These Instructions



Instructions:

- Let campers feel and learn about the different animals in the bag

Animal Prints

In the Bag:

- Animal Print Stamps: <https://rebrand.ly/18lj654>
- Ink Pad
- Paper
- Fun Facts sheets about Animals
- These Instructions

Instructions:

- Let campers stamp the prints the paper and make trails while counselors read the animal facts sheet



on

Egg Drop

Materials:

- Plastic Drinking Straws (20 for each team)
- Masking Tape (30" for each team)
- Raw Egg (1 for each team)
- Scissors (1 for each team)
- Tarp or place outside for the mess

Activity:

- The task is to design a delivery system that will protect the raw egg dropped from a predetermined height
- You can only use the straws and tape
- Give each team about 45min to design and build
- Everyone gets to watch each egg be dropped, but no one can change or add to their design after the 45 min.
- Printable Recording Sheet: <https://bit.ly/2po37sw>



Borax Crystals

Supplies:

- Borax
- Pipe Cleaners
- Embroidery Thread
- Pencil



Instructions

1. Bend the pipe cleaners into a loose coil shape, making sure to weave them in and out of each other to ensure they can hold the crystals. 2 or 3 work best
2. Tie a piece of string around the pipe cleaner, long enough for it to be suspended into the borax solution, but not touch the sides or bottom
3. Fill pot with 8 cups a water and bring to boil.
4. Pour borax in until no more will dissolve or box is empty
5. Turn off burner, but keep pot on burner. While solution is still hot, dunk you pipe cleaners in and out of the water to shake off any air bubbles.
6. Then soak pipe cleaner in solution overnight
7. The next morning you can pull out and see the crystals.

Slime Maker

In the Bag:

- Elmer's Glue
- Ziploc Bag of Baking Soda
- Saline Solution
- Spoon
- 1/4 Cup
- 1/2 Teaspoon
- 1 Cup
- 1 Tablespoon
- Mixing Bowl
- Small Sandwich Ziploc Baggies
- These Instructions



Instructions

- Make Slime together as a cabin with the following instructions:
 1. You will need a mixing bowl (not included)
 2. Put Glue in the Mixing Bowl. Use the spoon to make sure you get exactly 1 cup.
 3. Add in 1/4 cup of water and 1/2 tsp of baking soda. Make sure it is all mixed together.
 4. Pour 3 Tbs of Saline solution and stir with spoon. You will see the slime start to form.
 5. Grab slime with hands and smooch together.
 6. Have fun with your slime!!! Stretch it, smooch it!
 7. Store your slime in Ziploc baggies and play with it another day.

Parachutes

In the Bag:

- Empty Travel Bottle
- Scotch Tape
- 8.5x5.5 piece of cardstock
- 3 - Balloons
- 6ft of string
- 1.5 Cup of rice
- scissors
- 2x2ft piece of plastic tablecloth
- 1 already made parachute as an example
- These Instructions:

Instructions:

- as a cabin, you will be making 1 parachute that you can keep as a whole cabin
- Take the cardstock and tape and make a funnel out of it so that it will fit travel bottle
- Pour rice into it and fill the bottle
- Take one of the 3 balloons and blow up a bit and twist it. Put the end of the balloon over the bottle and dump the rice in
- Slowly let air out so that it doesn't spray rice everywhere.
- Do that about 4 times so that you have about a tennis ball size and then tie off the balloon
- Cut off the tip
- Cut off the tips of another balloon and stretch it over the rice ball
- Stretch over the final balloon and do NOT cut off the top
- Using about 8in of string, Tie a double knot onto the balloon
- Make sure the tablecloth is folded completely in half and then in half again so that it makes another square.

- Find the corner that has ZERO folds and cut off that entire quadrant of the square (when you unfold the parachute, you will have a plus sign)
- Now take the tape and tape the 4 corners of the plus sign to each other so that you make what looks like a bowl. (just tape corners so that there are holes for air to get through)
- Cut the rest of your string exactly in half
- Cut those 2 pieces exactly in half so that you now have 4 exact same size of string
- Tape one end of one piece of string to one of the corners, you just taped together, of the tablecloth
- Using the other 3 pieces of string Do the same with the 3 corners you haven't done
- You should now have what looks like a parachute with strings coming down
- Tie the strings to the mouthpiece of the balloon
- You now have a parachute with a balloon skydiver!

To Throw the Parachute:

- Grab the parachute tablecloth from the center and using your other hand gently brush the rest down so that it looks like a long stick
- Then fold the tablecloth in half twice and take the string and wrap it around
- Now, when you throw it high in the air, it will come unfolded and float down like a parachute!
- Video Instructions: youtu.be/RiE_mbu0iHw



Egg Carton Geodes

Supplies:

- Epsom salt
- Sandwich bags
- Liquid food coloring
- Egg carton
- Scissors
- Glue
- Paint brush
- Spoon
- Tape
- (Optional) glossy Modge Podge or similar top coat

Directions:

1. Pour Epsom salt into sandwich bags. You will want a bag for each color crystal you want to make. We added about $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of salt to each bag.
2. Add a few drops of liquid food coloring into each bag. Seal and shake till salt is evenly colored. Add more food coloring if more saturated color is desired.
3. Cut apart egg carton. Separating it into individual cups. You will have 12 cups from the top of carton and 12 from the bottom.

4. Pair up a cup that came from the top and one the came from the bottom of the carton. You will have 12 whole rocks.
5. If necessary, trim edges of each half so the pieces fit together flush.
6. Generously coat the inside of each cup with glue.
7. Add a scoop of Epsom salt to both sides.
8. Tape together the top and bottom of the rock and shake.
9. Open, dump out excess and be amazed!
10. *Optional* after geodes dry, add coat of Modge Podge or similar topcoat to the Epsom salt to increase their shine.



Hovercrafts

Supplies:

- 1 old CD or DVD
- 1 9" balloon
- 1 pop-top cap from a liquid soap bottle or a water bottle
- Hot glue gun



Directions:

1. When using the cap from a water bottle, cover the center hole of the CD with a piece of tape and poke about 6 holes in the tape with a push-pin or small nail. This will allow your hovercraft to hover longer.
2. Use the hot glue gun to glue the cap to the center of the CD or DVD disc. Create a good seal to keep air from escaping.
3. Blow up the balloon all the way and pinch the neck of it.
4. Make sure the pop-top is closed and fit the neck of the balloon over the pop-up portion of the cap.
5. When you're ready to commence hovering, put the craft on a smooth surface and pop the top open.

Oobleck

Supplies:

- Cornstarch
- Water
- Bowl or dish

Instructions:

1. This is a very messy experiment - but it cleans up really easily. Go somewhere that you can make a bit of a mess, and do this:
2. Take some cornstarch, and put some in the bowl.
3. Add water, slowly. As you add the water, stir the water into the cornstarch. Don't use a spoon - use your hands to do this. This is part of the fun, and you will also be able to tell when you have put in enough water.

What is Happening

- The cornstarch is made up of long chains of atoms - a polymer.
- These chains can move past each other, but they take some time to do this.
- If you pour it slowly, it can flow like a liquid. If you try to force things and make the chains slide more quickly than they want to, they get entangled - and the mixture gets firmer.
- So if you push hard on it, it acts more like a solid.

Cardboard Regatta

Supplies (for each team)

- Cardboard (have a bunch they can pick from)
- 1 roll of duct tape
- 1 garbage bag
- 1 paddle

Instructions:

1. Campers construct a boat that would carry one of them across our pond (not super far) and back.
2. Give points for:
 - creativity
 - extra people in boat
 - Driest Boat
 - Fastest Sinker



Catapults

What:

Build a catapult that will launch an object the furthest. Each group is given fake money to go to the fake store to buy the supplies they need to build their catapults. They only get a certain amount and once the money is gone its gone. That means they have to really plan out what they are going to make and spend their money wisely. After everyone has completed their catapult we test them out to see who built one to launch the item the furthest.

Materials for campers to purchase

- Popsicle sticks
- Tape by the foot
- Sticks
- Bottle caps
- Bristol board
- Pencils
- Erasers
- Elastic bands
- Tooth picks
- Paper cups



We let the kids figure out for themselves how they are going to build them. I also let the staff determine how much the items are to purchase and how much each group will get. We use play money that we print and give the kids.

Bird Racing

Supplies:

- Disposable cups
- Googly eyes
- pony beads (optional)
- Straws
- construction paper
- Dowel rods/ sticks
- Feathers
- paint (optional)
- String
- glue
- Tape
- markers

Instructions:

1. Decorate your cups with markers or paint.
2. Glue tail feathers to the inside edge of the cup.
3. Eyes and a beak are glued to the bottom of the cup.
4. Cut the straws in half and tape them on the top of the cup lengthwise.
5. Tie string to a fence. Thread the string through straw on the cup. Attach pony bead or handle to the string.

Suggestions:

1. Use straws that are a little larger in diameter. It will be easier to thread the string through the straw.
2. Taping the end of the string makes it easier to insert it into the straw.
3. We used shorter lengths of dowel rod as a handle for the string. It was easier for the younger children to hold onto and shake the string. We taped the string onto the dowel rod. It also kept the bird on the string so we didn't have to keep rethreading the straw.
4. You could also tie a pony bead on the end of the string to keep the string from coming out the end of the straw.
5. The kids can experiment with different lengths of string or change the size of the cup. Adjusting the string tension and movements are another variation the kids can try.



Elephant Toothpaste

Supplies:

- Soda Bottle
- Foil Pans
- 2 TBS water
- 1 tsp yeast
- Squirt of dish soap
- 4-5 drops of food coloring
- 1/2 cup of 6% or 8% hydrogen peroxide

Instructions:

1. Set a soda pop bottle in the middle of a pan to catch the toothpaste.
2. Mix Water and Yeast in a separate container and swirl together for a minute. The yeast will catalyze (or speed up) the reaction.
3. Mix Dish Soap, food coloring, and hydrogen peroxide
4. Pour the yeast mixture into the soda pop bottle...and stand back

Science stuff

- Formula $2 \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow 2 \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{O}_2$.
- Hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) naturally breaks

down into water and oxygen. It is stored in opaque containers to help slow down this process.

- Catalase (an enzyme in all living things, including yeast) speeds up the reaction.
- Dish soap catches the oxygen and makes bigger bubbles and the food coloring makes it look cool.
- The foam and bottle feel warm because the reaction is exothermic--it releases energy as heat.



Build a Bridge

What:

Teams design a bridge that spans a gap and holds weight using limited materials.



Supplies

- Popsicle sticks or small sticks
- Masking tape or string
- Two chairs or tables
- Weights (rocks, water bottles, books)

Directions

1. Divide campers into small teams.
2. Give each team identical supplies.
3. Explain the goal: build a bridge that spans the gap and holds the most weight.
4. Allow 30-45 minutes for building.
5. Test bridges by slowly adding weight.

Science stuff:

Campers learn about compression, tension, and how triangles add strength to structures.

Pendulum Painting

What:

Art meets physics as campers explore motion and gravity.

Supplies

- Paper or cardboard
- Cup with small hole in bottom
- String
- Washable paint
- Chairs or ladder



Directions

1. Poke a small hole in the bottom of a cup.
2. Tie string to the cup and then other end to a point above the paper on the ground (tree branch, basketball hoop, etc).
3. Fill cup with paint and cover hole with a finger.
4. Hold cup above paper and release paint.
5. Pull the cup back and release to swing.
6. Observe the patterns formed.

Science stuff

The pendulum shows how gravity, momentum, and energy create predictable motion patterns.

Rubberband Car

What:

Campers build cars powered only by stored energy.

Supplies

- Cardboard
- Bottle caps or wheels
- Skewers or dowels
- Rubber bands
- Tape



Directions

1. Build a simple car frame from cardboard.
2. Attach axles and wheels.
3. Anchor a rubber band to the front of the car.
4. Loop the other end around the rear axle.
5. Wind the axle and release.
6. Measure distance traveled.

Science Stuff

Potential energy stored in the rubber band converts to kinetic energy.

Vacuum Collapse

What:

A dramatic demonstration of air pressure.

Supplies

- Empty metal soda can
- Hot plate or camp stove
- Tongs
- Bowl of cold water



Directions

1. Add a small amount of water to the can.
2. Heat until water boils and steam escapes.
3. Use tongs to quickly flip the can upside-down into cold water.
4. Watch the can instantly collapse.

Science stuff

Steam pushes air out of the can. Cooling causes pressure outside to crush it.

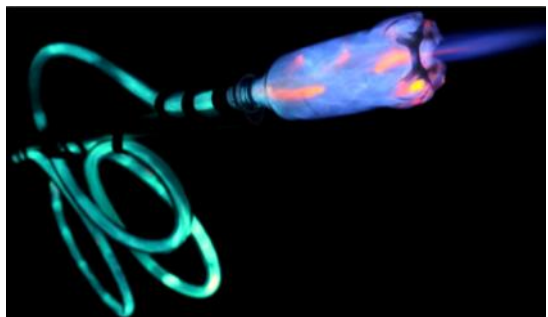
Propane Blaster

Supplies

- Soda Bottle (larger equals bigger pop)
- Clear Vinyl Tubing (7/8" OD, 5/8" ID)
- Push Button Propane Torch
- Electrical Tape
- 1" PVC pipe

Directions

1. Wrap the tubing in big circles around the PVC pipe. Make sure each end of the tube ends up on opposite sides and hangs off the pipe by an inch
2. Put a hole in the bottom of the soda bottle. It needs to be about the same size as the tube. (if using a larger bottle, make the hole bigger)
3. Tape the bottle lip onto one end of the tubing
4. Put the propane torch into the other end
5. Half press the torch so you are releasing propane into the tube. About 5 seconds is good
6. Fully press the torch to ignite the propane



Cloud in a Bottle

Supplies

- 2 liter soda bottle (remove labels)
- Soda Fizz Pump - <https://rebrand.ly/oxzm9n2>
- Isopropyl Alcohol
- Sticker Thermometer - <https://rebrand.ly/8fdyob3>

Directions

1. Put Sticker Thermometer on bottle
2. Pour in a little alcohol and swirl around
3. Put on Soda Fizz pump and start pumping. As the pressure gets higher you will notice the temp changing
4. Flip off the lid quickly and see a cloud form
5. Video Demonstration:
<https://rebrand.ly/uip24ai>



Rock Collection

Start a rock collection for kids to touch/see

Fun and Crowd-Pleasing Rocks to Include

- Ulexite, also known as the TV Rock
Ulexite has natural fiber-optic properties that allow images or text placed underneath it to appear projected on the top surface.
- UV Reactive Rocks
UV reactive minerals glow bright colors under a black-light. (Fluorite, calcite, willernite, ruby, etc)
- Magnetic Rocks
Magnetite or lodestone responds to magnets and can even attract small metal objects.
- Fossils
Fossils connect rocks to history and biology.
- Enhydro Agate
Rock with water trapped inside it
- Coprolite
Fossilized Poop
- Petrified Wood
Wood that has fossilized and been replaced with rock
- Bismuth
Chemical element that looks awesome after it has been melted and allowed to regrow
- Pyrite
Fool's Gold. Grows in cubes



Floating Plane

Supplies

- Standard copy paper (8.5" x 11" or similar)
- Scissors (optional for trimming)
- Plastic straw or small tube (optional but helpful)
- Two of the exact same fans

Directions

1. Make the Paper Plane - Fold a simple paper airplane. Use a classic dart design or something lighter and wider. Tip: Planes with larger wing surfaces often float better because they catch more air.
2. Prepare the Air Stream - Set up your fans so that the airflow is vertical.
3. Test the Air Flow - Turn the fans on to a gentle but steady airflow. It should create a column of rising air. • If it's too weak, the plane won't stay up. • If it's too strong, the plane may blast upward and crash.
4. Launch the Plane - Hold the paper plane directly in the middle. - Let it go so it catches the upward airflow.



Tree Seeds

Collect various seeds from trees that are awesome to talk about

My Favorites

- Buckeyes
Named because they look like a deer eye.
- Jack Pinecone and Lodgepole Pinecone
Serotinous (only opens in wildfire)
- 100 Sequoia seeds vs Acorns
shows that size doesn't matter. 75% of woodland creatures eat acorns
- Black Walnut
chemical that prevents other plants from growing near
- Maple seeds
Spinning Helicopters
- Sycamore seeds
Fuzzy ball that breaks open when it hits ground
- Hickory Nut
Most trees because of squirrels who buried the nut and didn't know where
- Sweetgum
Spikeball to protect from getting eaten
- Catalpa
Long green bean like seed pods that have seeds with wings inside

- Redbud
Pods that dry out and explode when they hit ground
- Eastern Red Cedar
berries that birds eat and then poop out the seed
- Box Elder Maple
seeds hang out until winter and then drop onto snow and ice to increase distance
- Honey Locust
Seeds contain a sweet pulp so animals will eat and digest the seed
- Bur Oak
Largest Acorn
- Pawpaw
Seeds in a banana like fruit so animals eat and digest
- Cottonwood
cotton like seeds that float in the wind
- Ash
Helicopters with multiple seeds
- Elm
seeds are flat wafers that float in the wind

Static Magic

Supplies

- Lightweight plastic grocery bag (cut into 1" rings)
- PVC pipe ~1 inch (25 mm) diameter and about 3 feet (1 m) long
- Piece of fur or wool cloth for charging
- Pencil or wooden dowel (for attaching to the PVC pipe)
- Tape (to secure the pencil/dowel)
- Scissors (to cut the plastic bag)

Directions

1. Prepare the Charging Wand - Tape the pencil or wooden dowel securely to one end of the PVC pipe so that about 5 inches (127 mm) extends past the pipe. Tip: Make sure the pencil and pipe are electrically separate if possible. A stopper can be used inside the pipe instead of tape.
2. Make a Plastic Band - Cut the handles off of the plastic grocery bag. - Cut a continuous ring around the top opening of the bag about 1 inch (25 mm) wide. This will be your floating band.

3. Charge the Plastic Band - Place the plastic ring on a table. - Rub the fur or wool cloth all over the band vigorously to build up a static charge. You may hear crackling; that's the static building.
4. Charge the PVC Rod - Hold the fur snugly against the PVC pipe. - Rub it back and forth vigorously to build up a matching static charge.
5. Make the Band Float - Use the tip of the pencil to lift the charged plastic band off the table. With a gentle flick, toss the band straight up into the air and quickly position your charged pipe under it. - Watch as the plastic ring floats above the pipe instead of falling down.

Science stuff

The band floats because it and the rod have built-up similar static charges. Like charges repel each other, so the band is pushed upward and can hover above the wand.



Exploding Sticks

Supplies

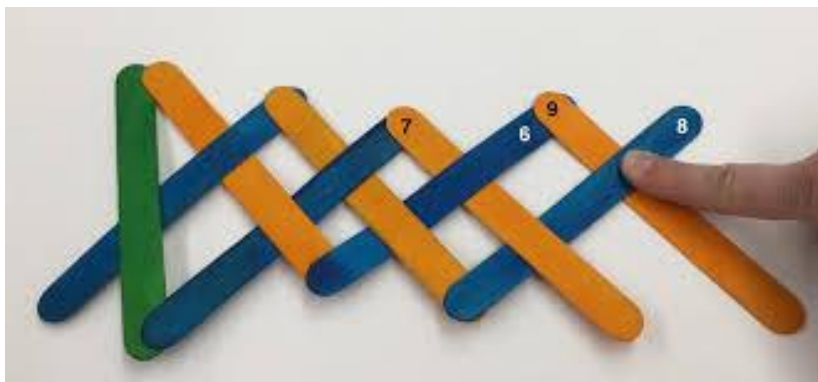
- Craft sticks or Popsicle sticks (the more sticks you have, the longer the chain): 75-300+ sticks depending on how big you want your bomb.
- A flat work surface (carpet works well to keep sticks from sliding).

Directions

1. **Begin the First Two Sticks** - Lay one stick down at a diagonal angle. - Place a second stick on top, forming an "X" shape. This overlapping intersection is the base of your cobra weave.
2. **Add the Third Stick** - Place a third stick over the center of one of the sticks in the "X" and under the other so that it creates tension. This establishes the alternating over-under pattern that will continue throughout the chain.
3. **Weave the Chain** - Continue adding sticks one at a time. - Each new stick should go over one stick and under the next in the pattern, keeping them almost perpendicular. - As you weave, keep tension in the structure by holding down

the end you're working on so it doesn't spontaneously release.

4. Build to the Desired Length - Keep weaving sticks in the pattern until you've reached your desired chain length. Longer chains create a longer and more dramatic reaction.
5. Lock the End - To finish, lay a single stick at the end of the chain that locks the last sticks in place. This is your end cap that holds the tension until you're ready to trigger the explosion.
6. Trigger the Explosion - Carefully remove the first stick you placed (the initial diagonal stick).
 - Step back and watch as the stored energy releases, sending the entire woven chain springing apart in a cascading, wave-like reaction across the surface.
7. Video Example: <https://rebrand.ly/jlk5f6p>



DIY Extinguisher

Supplies

- Clear jar or bottle (with a hole punched in the lid)
- White vinegar
- Baking soda
- Small candle
- Matches or lighter (adult use only)
- Paper towels or tray to catch spills

Directions

1. Prepare Your Work Area - Place the jar on a flat surface with a paper towel underneath to catch any spills.
2. Add the Vinegar - Pour vinegar into the jar until it is about halfway full.
3. Add the Baking Soda - Drop a spoonful of baking soda into the jar. You may hear fizzing and see foam as the reaction begins.
4. Light the Candle - With adult help, light the candle using matches or a lighter and set it in view of where the gas will flow.
5. Release the Carbon Dioxide - Carefully position the jar so the carbon dioxide gas flows over

- the candle flame. Do not pour out liquid; just tip the jar slightly so the invisible gas can pour out.
6. Watch the Magic - As the carbon dioxide gas flows onto the flame, the candle will go out.
 7. Clean Up - Wipe up any spills with paper towels and rinse out the jar when done.
 8. Video Example: <https://rebrand.ly/8ac772>

Science Stuff

When vinegar (an acid) and baking soda (a base) mix, they react to produce carbon dioxide gas. This gas is heavier than air, so it sinks and spreads out, pushing lighter oxygen out of the way. Since fire needs oxygen to burn, when carbon dioxide settles over the candle flame, it smothers the fire by removing the oxygen it needs.



Slug Races



Instructions

1. Talk to the campers ahead of time about slugs and teach them and give info.
2. Allow them a few days to catch 1 per cabin.
3. Create a race track inside a shoebox (or clear glass 10 gallon aquarium if available)
4. Use your phone or camera so you can livestream to projector (so all can watch)
5. Have a couple outgoing staff members commentate
6. This will take a while, so campers/staff can do "commercials" (skits that were prepared ahead of time)
7. Have a Golden Slug trophy to give out to winning cabin!

BOOKS

CAMPFESSION

SILENT CONVERSATIONS ACROSS THE
TABLE WITH MY
CO-COUNSELOR ARE THE KEY TO
SURVIVAL

Books

Camp Activities with a Science Twist

By: Shannon J. Horrillo

Publisher: Healthy Learning (2018)

How to Play in the Woods

By: Robin Blankenship

Publisher: Gibbs Smith (2016)

Hello Nature

By: Nina Chakrabarki

Publisher: Lance King Publishing (2016)

Outdoor Education

By: Susan McCarthy

Publisher: SRCM Book (October 2016)

Constellations of the Night Sky

By: Bruce LaFontaine

Publisher: Dover Publications (2003)

The Nature Connection An Outdoor Workshop

By: Clare Walker Leslie

Publisher: Storey Publishing (2010)

Predators and Prey

By: Cindy Blobaum

Publisher: Nomad Press (2016)

Resident Outdoor Environmental Education

By: Jim Parry

Publisher: Healthy Learning (2013)

Project Wild

Publisher: Council for Environmental Education (1992)

Project Wild Aquatic

Publisher: Council for Environmental Education (1992)

101 Nature Activities for Kids

By: Jane Sanborn

Publisher: Healthy Learning (2011)

The Kid's Outdoor Adventure Book

By: Stacy Tornio

Publisher: Falcon Guides (2013)

Environmental Education Activity Guide

Publisher: Project Learning Tree (2016)

Maker Lab Outdoors

By: Jack Challoner

Publisher: Penguin Random House (2018)

CAMPFESSION

WE COMPETE TO SEE
WHO HAS THE BEST
WATCH TAN

CAMPFESSION

I HAVE A VERY REFINED AND
PRECISE MARSHMALLOW
ROASTING PROCESS

CAMPFESSION

I HEAR A WORD OR PHRASE
AND BREAK INTO SONG. REAL
WORLD PEOPLE STARE AT ME!

TECHNOLOGY

CAMPFESSION

EARLY MORNINGS AT CAMP ARE
GLORIOUS....EARLY MORNINGS
IN THE REAL WORLD ARE
HEINOUS

Websites

[Pinterest](http://www.pinterest.com/chriskallal) - www.pinterest.com/chriskallal

Free to set up. Pin great ideas to your own boards. Follow me at:

[Summer Camp Programming](http://summercamppro.com) - summercamppro.com

All about summer Camp Programming. Some ideas are free, some cost. You can get involved in Round Tables and then get all the info from them free.

[Camp Group on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/groups/camppros/) -

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/camppros/>

Over 9,000 members. Great for questions or ideas. Can post a question or search the page. Also has lots of files to download

[Patchwork Marketplace](http://patchworkmarketplace.com) - patchworkmarketplace.com

Essentially a teachers pay teachers site. You can upload your own ideas or download others for a cost. Every Tuesday they upload 3 new "free ideas for the week"

[King of Random](http://thekingofrandom.com) - thekingofrandom.com

Youtube video instructions on how to make some pretty awesome things for your camp

[Download Youth Ministry](http://www.downloadyouthministry.com) - www.downloadyouthministry.com

Powerpoint games and lessons for youth

[Chinese Amazon/Ebay](http://alibaba.com) - alibaba.com or aliexpress.com

Cheap stuff from China that is very similar to Amazon or Ebay

[Wish](http://wish.com) - wish.com

Another Chinese site with cheap stuff. Also has an app. (Always scroll farther down for cheaper stuff)

Apps

[Leafsnap](#) - Columbia University, University of Maryland, and Smithsonian

Cost: Free

Electronic Field Guide. Contains a large collection of leaves, what they look like each season, any nuts or berries, what the bark looks like, etc. Also has a way to take a picture of a leaf to help identify it

[PlantSnap](#) - Identify a Flower Leaf or Tree

Cost: Free

Instant image-based plant identification.

[iNaturalist](#) - Connect with Nature

Cost: Free

Identify plants and animals around you

[Skyview Free Explore the Universe](#) - Terminal Eleven LLC

Cost: Free

AR app to identify stars, constellations, satellites, and planets.

[Merlin Bird ID by Cornell Lab](#) - Instant Bird Identification

Cost: Free

Bird Field Guide. Search bird by color, size, and sound. Can learn about the bird or hear what sound it does make

[Angle Pro](#) - 5.fuf5

Cost: Free

Quickly check level and check angles. Super accurate inclinometer

[Color Hunt](#) - Cody Mace

Cost: Free

Go on a Scavenger Hunt for Colors

[350 Panorama](#) - Occipital, Inc

Cost: 1.99

Take 360 degree views of places. Great to show what your camp area looks like

Podcasts

[Summer Camp Programming Podcast](#)

Chris's podcast he co-hosts with Curt Jackson from Summer Camp Pro. Weekly podcast with tons of ideas each week

[Camp Code -](#)

4 seasons worth of Staff Training Ideas!

[CampHacker](#)

Podcast for Directors. Lots of Marketing

[Rec Heads and Camp Nerds](#)

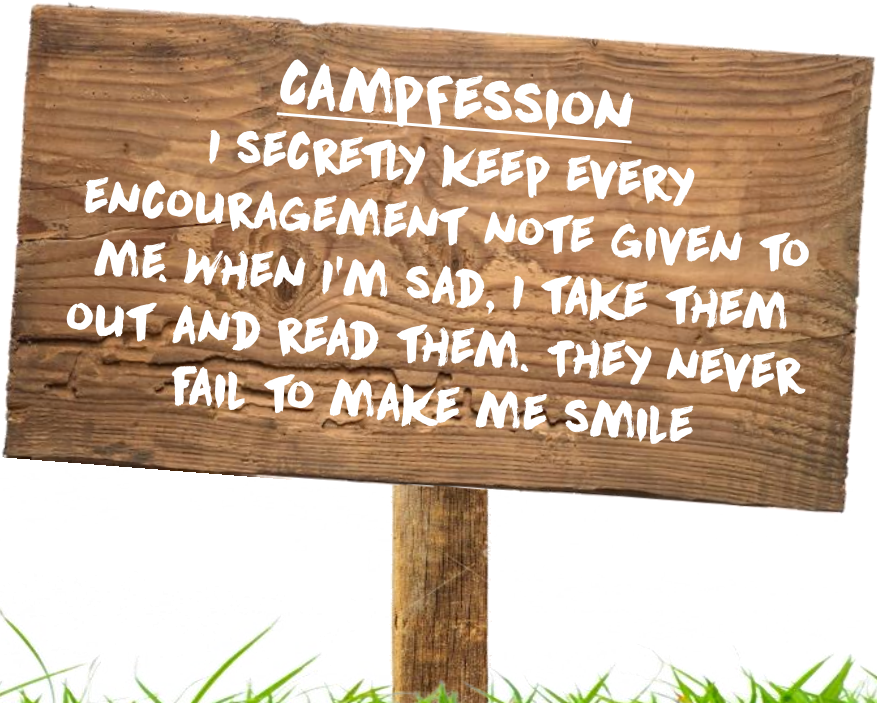
Fun Camp Ideas. Great for Program Directors

[Summer Camp Leadership Podcast](#)

Lots on Marketing and Branding

[Room Escape Divas](#)

Escape Room Ideas



CAMPFESSION
I SECRETLY KEEP EVERY
ENCOURAGEMENT NOTE GIVEN TO
ME. WHEN I'M SAD, I TAKE THEM
OUT AND READ THEM. THEY NEVER
FAIL TO MAKE ME SMILE

RANDOM PICS

CAMPFESSION
THE LONGER YOU WORK AT
CAMP, THE MORE "FORBIDDEN"
THINGS YOU GET TO DO

Creek Cross



Bee Hotel



Tape Bracelet



Color Hunt



Outdoor Cooking



Solar Oven



Spider Web Collecting



Star Cards

Outdoor Cooking



Other Books by Chris & Carrie

Steal This: Ideas of Awesomeness

(Updated: December 2018)

ST: Ideas for Outdoor Ed & STEMiness

(Updated: October 2019)

ST: 50 Ways to Be Awesome

(Updated: November 2019)

ST: Ideas of Portableness

(Updated: October 2019)

ST: Ideas of Contemporary Craftiness

(Updated: February 2020)

ST: Ideas of Virtualness

(Updated: May 2020)

ST: Ideas for Time Fillers & Brain Breakiness

(Updated: August 2020)

ST: Ideas of Camp Boxiness

(Updated: April 2021)

ST: Ideas During Covidness

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ST: Ideas of Social Distancedness

(Updated: May 2021)

ST: Ideas for Escape Rooms & Puzzleness

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ST: Ideas of Teambuildingness

(Updated: October 2022)

ST: The BIG Book of Awesomeness
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ST: Ideas of CAFÉ Bagginess
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ST: 25 Rules for Unparalleled Hospitality
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ST: Ideas for Camp Board Greatness
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ST: Ideas of Parenting Awesomeness
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ST: 50 Ideas for Retreat Awesomeness
(updated: December 2025)

ST: Ideas of Staff Training Greatness
(updated: January 2026)

ST: Ideas of Creative Worshipness
(updated: January 2026)

Princess Diary: Devos for Girls
(updated: October 2021)

Man Book: Devos for Boys
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Church Notes Vol 1-4
(updated: October 2022)



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