

3.8

Camping Sites and Equipment

*"The angel of the LORD
encamps around those who
fear him, and he delivers
them."*

Psalm 34:7

Objectives:

Recruit

1. Define the following term:
 - a. Camp
2. List three types of camping.
3. Correctly wash dishes at a camp out.
4. List the requirements for an "ideal" campsite.
5. Correctly choose and prepare a location for your tent.

Camper

1. Prepare a check list of personal gear for a campout.
2. Name three rules of camp safety and explain why they are important.
3. Prepare an equipment check list of Train gear for a campout.
4. Correctly position cooking, eating, cleaning, tent, firewood, garbage and latrine areas at a campsite.
5. Correctly pitch a tent.

Frontiersman

1. Prepare a campout activity schedule for a weekend campout.

UNIT 3

CAMPING

CHAPTER 8 CAMPING SITES AND EQUIPMENT



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TIPS TO REMEMBER

In this age of television and video games, children often have short attention spans and dull and inactive imaginations. This makes it all the more important that you use **your** imagination in your planning.

Applying God's Word to the Lesson

DEVOTION #1

2 Corinthians 5:1 *Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands.*

The boys and their leader arrived at the campsite just as the sun was setting. Several things had to be done quickly: supper had to be prepared, firewood gathered and the tent set up. Each of these tasks would be easiest to do in what little daylight remained before darkness came. Dividing the jobs among them, some organized the firewood, some began cooking the supper, and some worked on the tent. Unfortunately, those working on the tent were not the most experienced campers and things weren't going right. As they got one side of the tent up, the other side kept falling down. Finally, they got the tent up in what they hoped would be good enough shape to make it through the night.

Tents are not very permanent dwellings, they're not meant to be. Tents are meant to give us shelter from the weather for one or two nights, maybe for a week. Then we go home from camping to a much more permanent shelter made of wood and bricks.

Because tents are so fragile they are a good picture of our bodies, "the earthly tent we live in." This earthly tent of our body only provides temporary shelter for our souls. That temporary shelter may last seventy years or more, but that is only temporary when compared to eternity.

We have a more permanent shelter in our God. He has prepared for us "an eternal house in heaven, "which is a shelter for us that will last long after our earthly tent is destroyed. God prepared that eternal house for us by sending Jesus to be our Savior. Because Jesus died on the cross, God has forgiven our sins and given us a permanent home with him in heaven.

PRAYER: Dear heavenly Father, thank you for giving us permanent shelter in heaven. Thank you also for the shelter you have given us on earth. Help us to learn about the shelter you provide for us here and about the shelter you provide for us in heaven. Help us to give shelter when we can and to tell others about the shelter you gave us in Jesus. Amen.

HYMN: 660 v. 1-2 (TLH) 417 v. 1-2 (CW)

Applying God's Word to the Lesson

DEVOTION #2

TEXT: Psalm 91:1,10

THEME: God's Shelter Gives Security

We have shelter with our Most High God. And since God has all power, all knowledge, all wisdom, and is present everywhere, there is nothing from which God cannot protect us.

Our Most High God has shown that he wants to protect us by sacrificing his one and only Son for us on the cross. That brings us the eternal security of knowing that we have shelter in heaven. We also have security now in the shelter of our Most High God. Therefore, we need fear no harm or disaster but may rest securely in him.

PRAYER: Thank you, Lord, for the security of your shelter. Shelter us from all harm and danger that threatens body and soul. May we rest secure in the comfort of your love for Jesus' sake. Amen.

HYMN: 123 v.1-3 (TLH) 441 v.1-3 (CW)

DEVOTION #3

TEXT: Psalm 27:5

THEME: We Are Safe

OUTLINE

1. We are safe because God dwells with us.
2. We are safe because God gives us his Word in his tabernacle (church).
3. We are safe because God gives us firm support in the Rock who is Christ.

Additional References:

- Psalm 19:4
- Psalm 31:20
- Psalm 55:8
- Psalm 61:4
- Psalm 76:2
- Psalm 84:10
- Psalm 104:2
- Proverbs 14:11
- Isaiah 4:6
- Jonah 4:5-11
- Hebrews 11:9
- 2 Peter 1:13
- Revelation 7:15

1 Introducing the Lesson

This chapter is most effectively taught in close connection with a campout. You might go through your Train's supplies with a group of boys in preparation for a campout and then deal with sites and the proper use of the equipment at your campout.

To focus the attention of the Pioneers, you might set out much of your equipment and even set up a tent before the meeting starts. If your equipment is stored somewhere other than your normal meeting location, you can just meet at that location and begin with your devotion there.

As you prepare and teach this lesson, you will want to focus on the features, components and styles of tents that are available, selecting the proper tent for your activity and proper care and maintenance of your tents. Don't forget to give some attention to other equipment, such as sleeping bags, mats and personal equipment. Don't make the mistake of speaking only about equipment that will be used with a large group camp like your Train campout. Teach your Pioneers to camp alone or with their families as well.

CAMPING

"The angel of the Lord encamp s around those who fear Him and He delivers them." Psalm 34:7

David spent many nights out under the beautiful stars while he watched over his father's flocks. The countryside was filled with wild animals but he was not afraid. He knew that the Lord was there, protecting and guarding him. The Lord still "encamps around those who fear Him." The Lord is there whether at home or camping in the deepest woods. At night, in your tent, thank Him for His protection. In the Bible, you will find the word "camp" mentioned many times. The book of Exodus talks about the camps of the Egyptians and the Israelites.

DEFINITION

The dictionary defines a camp as "a place where a number of temporary shelters have been set up in an outdoor area for use by a group of people." People have been camping for thousands of years. In the time of the Bible, camping was a necessity but today most camping is done for recreation.

TYPES OF CAMPING

There are basically three types of camping: light weight, medium weight and heavy weight. Backpacking is a form of light weight camping and is discussed in Chapter 9. Canoeing is a form of medium weight camping and is discussed in Chapter 10. Most of the camping that your Lutheran Pioneer Train will do involves taking large tents, two and three burner stoves, coolers, lanterns, etc. When you take this much heavy equipment on a campout, it is called heavy weight camping.



Possible Materials for Teaching and Demonstrating this Lesson

Photos of potential campsites w/topo maps of campsite area

Much of your Train's camping gear, including a variety of tents, if possible

Videos from the Lutheran Pioneer National Office

Tent waterproofing and repair supplies

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PERSONAL EQUIPMENT

The personal equipment you take when your Train goes camping depends on several things. It depends on the weather and how long you will be camping. The first thing you will need to take is the proper clothing. A suggested clothing gear list would include:



- underwear, (two tops and bottoms)
- three pair of thick cotton socks (these will keep your feet very comfortable)
- several long sleeved cotton-polyester shirts (these will protect you from the sun and insects)
 - a T-shirt or two
 - a pair of jeans
 - cut-offs or shorts
 - a belt
- a pair of hiking boots (be sure the boots are well broken in and not brand new)
- tennis shoes
- a jacket, a hooded sweatshirt or a heavy sweater
- rain suit
- a hat (to protect your head from the rain and sun)

This should get you through the weekend with no problem.

If your Train is planning a Spring or Fall campout, however, you will have to rearrange your pack and bring heavier clothing and a good warm sleeping bag. Winter camping requires special skills that are beyond the scope of this chapter.

For a good night's sleep, you will need a sleeping bag or two blankets. The best sleeping bag for Train campouts should have two to four pounds of synthetic fiber-fill. It will keep you warm and dry out quickly if it gets wet. A

2**Teaching the Lesson**

This is another lesson that may not require much effort or time to teach, if your Train has a number of outings during the year. The experience of these outings and the opportunity to receive tips as they go will teach the boys much better than any lesson or lecture. Nevertheless, meetings are a good time to review these skills and get related tasks done in preparation for outings.

“Expert” Presenters

There is a limited list of people who might be willing to come and visit your Train with a presentation about camping sites and equipment.

- A sporting goods store may send a representative with much of the equipment that the store offers and speak about their features and uses. Beware that such a person will likely be trying to make a sale along the way.
- You might request that a representative of the National Office bring the Lutheran Pioneer Trading Post to your Train to display and explain the camping gear that it has available.
- An outfitter might discuss the equipment he uses, its care and some tips about camping sites to consider.

Field Trips

There are a few options to consider for places

TAKE THE TIME TO TEACH THOROUGHLY—MULTI-SESSION TEACHING

Most of the chapters in *A Boy's Handbook* are too lengthy and involved to expect to present in one 45-minute session. Consider breaking up a lesson into several teaching sessions. The first might be a presentation of the theory (terms, display of items, etc.) with very little hands-on. The following lesson(s) then can be hands-on practice, activities and testing. By spreading it out over time, you cover the material more thoroughly and make it more memorable.

to visit to learn more about *Camping Sites & Equipment*.

- You might tour a sporting goods store and examine their equipment in the store.
- If your equipment is not stored at your meeting site, a trip to your equipment storage is a wise idea.
- Another possible trip is to a place where you can examine potential campsites and set up equipment temporarily.
- Take the older boys to a Sports Show, where they can see the latest in a variety of outdoor fields.

Other Resources

There are other resources available to help you learn more about camping sites and equipment before you present the lesson. These might give you new ideas or tools to use for your presentation.

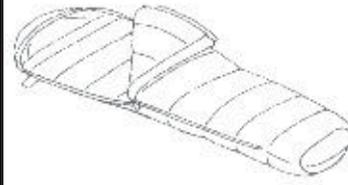
- *The Boy Scout Handbook* and *Fieldbook* provide good general information about site selection and setup. They also contain information about tents, but this information may not be up-to-date.
- Sporting goods catalogs will provide information about the latest equipment available and its cost.
- The internet is also a good source of information about the latest in camping “technology.”
- The Lutheran Pioneer Library also has videos about camping sites and camping equipment.

Projects & Activities

Getting the boys involved in various projects and activities will keep them interested in the subject matter and make it memorable and useful for years of camping. Here are a few ideas for teaching *Camping Sites & Equipment*.

- Explain and inspect camping equipment, including sleeping bags and pads, for a variety of camping applications.

full-length zipper allows the bag to be opened all the way and aired out easily during the day. For comfort, you should have an air mattress or foam pad. This will keep the dampness of the ground from getting into your sleeping bag



and chilling you. If you have the room, a pillow is nice, but a lot of the boys stuff their sweatshirts with the next days clothing and use this as a pillow. Not only is it comfortable, but your clothes are warm the next morning. The type of pajamas you wear at home will also work well on a campout. Don't forget your swimming trunks either.

For eating, you will need to bring a plastic cup, plate, and bowl, along with a knife, fork and spoon. Better yet are the compact mess kits that you can buy. They are made of aluminum or stainless steel and store away in their own case. They are easy to clean and always ready to go. Other equipment that you might want to take along includes: a flashlight with a good set of batteries, a pocket knife and a canteen.



In some areas you might also want to take some mosquito repellent. If you are taking medicine that has been prescribed by your doctor, the leaders should be informed of this and the medicine should be given to them for safety. They can then administer it to you when required.

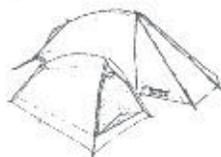
PERSONAL CLEANLINESS EQUIPMENT

Items for personal cleanliness include: soap (in a container), toothbrush, toothpaste, wash cloth, towel, comb and handkerchief. These can all be stored in a plastic bag or a toilet kit to keep them clean. It is important to keep yourself clean. Brush your teeth like you were taught and wash up before going to bed.

TRAIN EQUIPMENT

The type of equipment that your Train takes on a camping trip is also determined by where your Train is located, where you go camping and when you go camping. A typical Train would have the following equipment:

- large umbrella or wall tents
- two or three burner stoves
- one or two lanterns
- ice chests or coolers
- an assortment of pots and pans and cooking utensils
- a first aid kit
- two or three axes and saws
- other assorted pieces of equipment.



Some Trains build storage boxes to keep everything in while other Trains build trailers. Whatever your Train uses, it is important that everyone take care of the equipment by keeping it in good repair and clean.

CAMP SANITATION

Camp sanitation is very important during the campout.



Nothing can ruin a campout faster than a group of boys becoming ill. Keep the eating area clean and make sure that all the dishes are washed in hot water and rinsed well. If you eat food that has been cooked in a dirty dish or are

eating off a dirty plate, you could become ill. Your leaders will also ask you to keep the camp clean and this includes your tents, the camping equipment and the latrine.

At the end of your campout, it is your responsibility to make sure that the entire area is clean, in fact, cleaner than when you found it. The trash should all be picked up.

Your campfire should be completely out. Leave enough

- Have a tent-setup competition at a meeting. However, to prevent the damage of tents, judge the competition first on quality of setup, then on speed. This also allows inspection of tents while they are up.
- Using photos of different potential campsites and topo maps, select the appropriate campsite for an outing.
- With the older boys, repair, waterproof and/or seam-seal tents after the tents have undergone a thorough inspection.
- Discuss proper camp sanitation and tent “etiquette” at the beginning of camp.
- Before unloading equipment at the beginning of a camp, inspect potential camping sites for their pros and cons and explain why these things are or are not favorable. Let wagon leaders select their own sites.
- After setting up tents at camp, hold an equipment seminar at each wagon and set up the camp areas, including the kitchen and wood-cutting areas.

AV Materials for This Chapter Available from Lutheran Pioneers

- AV 101 *OUTDOOR GEAR* - 30 Minutes - Ages 8-Adult
- AV 103 *CAMPING PREPARATION* - 30 Minutes - Ages 8-Adult
- AV 104 *OVERNIGHT CAMPING* - 30 Minutes - Ages 8-Adult

AV 123 *HOW TO ENJOY CAMPING FROM YOUR VERY FIRST TRIP* - 35 Minutes - Ages 10-Adult

AV 124 *CAMPING WITH KIDS* - 45 Minutes - Ages 10-Adult

AV 127 *WINTER CAMPING IN MONTANA* - 40 Minutes - Ages 12-Adult

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Practicing and Testing the Material

The best way to practice and test this material is by doing the activities in this lesson or by actually camping with your group. There is no place for a written examination in this lesson.

One way to test the chapter might be to open up your equipment storage to a Pioneer or group of Pioneers and have them select the necessary equipment for a given type of camping. They might also be asked to set up a campsite near your storage area, if the space is available.

You can also involve the older boys in preparing an actual camp schedule of activities for an upcoming outing.

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firewood for the next camper to start his first fire. If you had to build a latrine, be sure it is torn down and properly filled in. If you played any games, check to be sure you pick up all your flags and markers. As you are cleaning up, think about how you would like the campsite to look the next time you arrive. Camping can be an exciting adventure for boys of all ages.

CAMP SAFETY

Safety rules set by the leaders in charge are for the welfare of every boy in camp. They are to be obeyed by everyone. Accidents don't just happen. They are caused when someone becomes careless. Listen to your leaders as they point out the areas where someone might get hurt. I am sure they will talk about not playing around the fire and staying away from the wood chopping area. They might also point out some dangerous areas around camp or that there are poisonous plants nearby. Horseplay and fooling around just have no place in a Pioneer camp. You are probably many miles away from a doctor and therefore it is very important that you listen to your leader and not become involved in an accident.

PLANNING

Just because there is no limit on the amount of equipment that you can take with you, or its weight, heavy weight camping still requires a great deal of planning. Your Train leaders have to know when they will be going camping, where the campsite is, who will be going, how much food they will have to take, who will be driving, what equipment they will have to take along and the cost of the campout. They also must plan all of the activities for the weekend.

CHOOSING A CAMPSITE

When your Train goes camping, the Train leaders will be looking for the "ideal" campsite. They will be looking for a safe place to camp, one that is clear of poisonous plants.