



Bear Necessities

Bear | Required

Complete requirements 1-4. Requirements 5 and 6 are optional

1. While working on your Bear badge, attend one of the following:

- a) A daytime or overnight campout with your pack or family
- b) An outdoor activity with your den or pack
- c) Day camp
- d) Resident camp

Let's go camping! If your pack does not have any camping opportunities available, conduct your own investigation about campgrounds in your area - many are free of charge. Don't forget - you can always throw down a makeshift campsite right there in the backyard. If you don't have a backyard, ask around and maybe a relative or friends will let you share theirs for a night. Select your choice on Requirement 1 of the [Bear Necessities Adventure Worksheet](#).

2. Make a list of items you should take along on the activity selected in Requirement 1.

Being comfortable in the outdoors means taking along the right gear to keep you warm, dry and safe. You don't need all the comforts of home, but a few things can really help you enjoy your campout. Things like hiking boots, a poncho/rain gear, a mess kit, toothbrush and plenty of clothing layers can really come in handy. And always bring your 6 CubScout essentials. On requirement 2 of the [Bear Necessities Adventure Worksheet](#), make a list of personal items YOU should bring along on your campout.

3. Make a list of equipment that the group should bring along in addition to each Scout's personal gear for the activity selected in Requirement 1.

The equipment your group should bring along to ensure a fun campout will depend quite a bit on 1) where you are camping, 2) how many people are camping and 3) which season/weather conditions are expected. You always want to make sure you have plenty of food, cookware and plates, cups, utensils to keep the bellies full. We always bring plenty of water to stay hydrated. We always bring along trash bags as we will be looking to leave our camp site better than we found it as part of our "Leave No Trace" principles. Firewood is a nice touch to bring warmth and fellowship to our camping events. Camp lighting, tarps, rope, games and activities are all helpful to ensure a great group camping experience. Can you think of other things your group should bring along on your campout? Write a list on requirement 3 of the [Bear Necessities Worksheet](#).





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- 4. Help set up a tent. Determine a good spot for the tent, and explain to your den leader why you picked it.**

When setting up your tent, it is important to choose an area that will be safe. Look at the trees nearby and decide if any of them are dead and leaning your way, or if the branches overhead appear to be a threat of falling down. Never set up too close to a fire ring as drifting embers are another potential hazard. Mountain sides present a risk of falling rocks. And consider your proximity to nearby water like a stream or river. A heavy rain can potentially raise the water level to a point that could flood your site and wash away your food and clothing. For a quick tutorial on how to set up a tent, watch this video:

<https://www.scouting.org/programs/cub-scouts/den-meeting-resources/den-leader-tips-tricks-video-series/#video-gallery-d110865-26>. Now complete requirement 4 on your [Bear Necessities Adventure Worksheet](#).

