

Step 2

Gearing Up

Step 3

Out and About

for Beaver Scout Colonies

Introduction

Dear Beaver Scouters and Beaver Scouters,

We are delighted to bring you our eight-step 'Camping with the Stars' resources over the next few weeks. These resources aim to help you and your Colony or Pack to have a fun-filled, youth-centred camping experience in May or June 2018 by building your capacity and confidence in camping step-by-step.

Step 1: **First Pitch** 31st January 2018
Plan for camp in small groups; roles for Scouters.

Step 2: **Gearing Up** 21st February 2018
Clothing, layers, personal first aid kit, packing an overnight bag, hygiene.

Step 3: **Out and About** 21st February 2018
Day activity with the correct gear.

Step 4: **Site and Oversight** 7th March 2018
Group gear, Leave No Trace, risk management, site layout.

Step 5: **Food for Thought** 7th March 2018
Overnight with food hygiene and prep in small groups.

Step 6: **Spars and Sparks** 11th April 2018
Tent pitching, gadget construction, fire-lighting.

Step 7: **Adding the Magic** 11th April 2018
Campfire, Scouts' Own, flag ceremony, gear check, revision.

Step 8: **Camping with the Stars** 2nd May 2018
Revision, get out and camp, review.



We hope you find these resources helpful and informative. Remember, your Scout section may also benefit from camping resources, which are organised slightly differently than those for Beaver Scouts and Beaver Scouts.

Wishing you and your Colony or Pack the best of success in the months ahead. Happy camping!

Ian Feighery
Programme Commissioner (Beaver Scouts)

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Gearing Up



Packing

To make camping a more organized and enjoyable experience, Beaver Scouts should be encouraged to be properly equipped and they should always pack their own rucksack, with assistance from their parents/ guardians. Building self-sufficiency is an important part of Scouting.

Parents usually help their Beaver Scouts lay out their gear and ensure that everything is there and should help their child put the gear into the rucksack. The Beaver Scout needs to know where something is packed so that they can find it on camp, and they may not be able to pack their gear as tightly as their parents can, leading to the usual problem of when it comes time to repack at the end of camp that not all the gear fits back into the rucksack. Beaver Scouts who are unfamiliar with their packed gear may become anxious and upset on camp.

Another common problem for Beaver Scouts is trying to squeeze their sleeping bag back into its stuff sack. A Scouter should help perform this task otherwise the Beaver Scout may try to pack the loose sleeping bag into their rucksack at the cost leaving the clothing out of the bag. Rucksacks are never waterproof, so it's recommended to put a plastic bin liner inside the rucksack.

The following are some tips on packing:

-Assemble all the items being brought on camp, on the bedroom floor, checking them off one by one as they are placed into the rucksack
-Work on the principle of 'Last In, First Out'
-Remember, it's easier to roll clothes than to fold them
-Pack a complete outfit together – pants, T-shirt, socks, underwear
-Pack the daily outfits in a plastic bag. Place the previous day's dirty outfit into the next day's plastic bag and put it back into the rucksack
-ALWAYS BRING EXTRA SOCKS
-Don't pack a bath towel if a hand towel will suffice
-Make sure that the batteries in the torch or headlight are working
-Make it compulsory for Beaver Scouts to bring a teddy bear- that way, older Beaver Scouts will not be embarrassed about having one. Teddy bears give Beaver Scouts great comfort away from home.
-Do not bring unnecessary outfits
-LABEL EVERYTHING INCLUDING THE RUCKSACK

Gearing Up



The following is a printable suggested gear list for a weekend camp:

Item	Tick When Packed
NECKERCHIEF (must be worn at all times)	
Full Uniform (should be worn travelling to and from the camp)	
Sleeping bag	
Ground Mat	
Hiking boots	
Sneakers or comfortable shoes	
At least 5 changes of clothes	
Fleece/hoody/warm jumper	
Underwear	
Several pairs of socks	
More socks	
Waterproof pants and jacket	
Sleep Wear (warm pyjamas or Track Suit)	
Sun Protection (sunscreen, sunglasses, lip balm and a hat)	
Gloves	
Hat	
Hand towel	
Wash bag	
Mug, plate, bowl,	
Knife, fork, spoon	
Drinks bottle (lightweight, unbreakable container with a secure lid)	
Plastic bags (for keeping wet clothes / laundry / muddy boots separate from clean clothes)	
Costume (each Beaver must have a costume reflecting the theme)	
Day bag or small rucksack	
Pillow (optional - compact camping version)	
Torch (and extra Batteries)	

Camping with the Stars
A Camping Initiative

Gearing Up



Points to Note

This is an all-season list. What the Beaver Scout actually brings will depend on the seasonal weather and the type of activity.

Some points to note:

- A Rucksack: 65 litre capacity is large enough for Beaver Scouts and will last them into Cub Scouts.
- All gear must be labelled and each Beaver must be able to identify their own gear.
- Remember that the Beaver Scouts must carry their own gear where possible.
- Dishes: Beaver Scouts are required to bring their own dishes to camps. A melamine or other unbreakable type plate, bowl, and mug are recommended as they are durable and will not transfer heat near as fast as enamel or metal dining kits. A knife, fork and spoon will complete the set. Keep it all stored together. (We suggest using a mesh bag for washing delicate items – available in the discount shops).

Suggested List of Personal Hygiene Items	Tick
Toothbrush & container	
Toothpaste	
Soap & container	
Shampoo	
Washcloth	
Comb/hairbrush	
Waterless hand sanitizer	
Small Hand towel	

Suggested List of Optional Items	Tick
Compass	
Notebook	
Pen or pencil	
Sunglasses	
Small musical instrument	
Swimsuit	
Whistle	
Hiking stick	
Binoculars	
Wetsuit (for water activities)	
Water shoes (for water activities)	
Adventure Quest – Lands of Adventure Beaver Scout Handbook	
Campfire Blanket	
Insect repellent (in season)	

Gearing Up



Dressing in Layers

Proper clothing is essential for keeping warm, dry, and comfortable in the cold weather. Wearing multiple layers is both warm and allows Beaver Scouts to take layers off and on so that they always have enough to be warm, but not so much that they sweat. The layers should be something like this:

1. Base layers: Long sleeved T-shirts, long underwear if possible, thin socks
2. Insulation layers: Jumper or hoody, warm pants (fleece is best; track suit pants also work), heavy socks (fleece or wool)
3. Waterproof jacket, rain pants, hiking boots
4. Hat and scarf or buff, gloves or mittens

Bring extra clothes, particularly socks, to change out of wet clothing.

Personal First Aid Kit

Every Beaver Scout should have their own personal First Aid kit. This kit is packed into an old pencil case or small Tupperware container. The kit does not need to be very big so that it can be packed in a day bag or rucksack for each outing.

The following are suggested items for a personal First Aid kit: a selection of different sized plasters, plastic bag, Savlon Cream, small scissors, roll of elastic bandage, surgical tape, tweezers, steri-wipes, safety pins, heel blister plasters.

Gearing Up



Keeping Clean and Healthy on Camp

Keeping clean and hygienic will result in happy campers.

Everyone on camp should wash themselves every morning when they get up. This should be the same routine as would be practiced at home - face, hands, teeth and the combing of hair. If showers are available on the campsite, encourage to the Beaver Scouts to use them.

Erect a clothes line to dry out wet towels.

Beaver Scouts should have it explained why it is vital to wash their hands after going to the toilet, giving first aid or handling materials that may carry germs. Hands should be washed before and after handling food or drinking water.

Shake shoes or boots and socks out to remove any stones or materials that may cause blisters; change socks throughout the day where required.

Insist on a full change of clothes at night. Clothes worn to bed must be completely dry. Anything worn during the day will be at least slightly damp from sweat.
Clothes and sleeping bags should also be kept as clean as possible. Beaver Scouts should put on clean underwear and socks each day. Sleeping bags should be turned inside out after using it then shaken to air it.

Out and About



Outdoor Activity

As with your Scouting programme overall, it is important that there is an outdoor programme in the run-up to camp.

Organise a day activity in the out-of-doors. It may be a backwoods experience, a hiking expedition, a day on the water. The most important aspect of this activity is that Beaver Scouts be given the responsibility of packing their own personal gear, as well as Group gear.

Beaver Scouts can be given a checklist-style list of requirements for the outing. It is their responsibility to prepare and pack at home!

Organising an outdoor expedition is also ideal for putting into place Beaver Scout-friendly plan-do-review process. Giving Conn extra responsibilities during the outing can test their leadership skills in a safe way- carrying the Colony's first aid kit, etc.

The outdoor activity, whatever format it takes, should, most importantly, be FUN! Beaver Scouts are gearing up for their camp- this outing is a perfect opportunity to put their skills into practice!