



2020 Cub Scout Backyard Challenge



Living Room Camping

Category: Scout Skills

Difficulty: Easy

Description:

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Hey Scouts! Here is an opportunity for you to do a little camping. Use this one for when it is really hot or a stormy night. We call it “living room” camping but you can set up in any room that works in your home. However, preferably NOT your bedroom, just to make it more of an adventure.

First, **pack your backpack** with the gear you'll need. The more you make this like a real camping trip the more fun it will be. Having someone else from your household join you will make it even more fun. Pack playing cards or possibly a board games.

Second, just like outside camping, **pick a good location** that has enough space for your tent (if you have enough space to set up your tent inside that's fine, however we'd really like you to create a tent with blankets or sheets, or sleep out in the open). Remember not to have your camp site block where you generally walk or near a door, this isn't a safe place for your camp site.

Now that you've found a good location, let's **set up your tent!** Grab a blanket or sheet and place between a couple pieces of furniture. If your parents allow, you could tie a length of rope between two chairs and drape a sheet over it or to use rubber bands or bag clips to help secure the sheets. Another option for tent would be to potentially cover a dining table with a sheet and camp under it.

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Be creative but always be safe.



Set up the rest of your gear, (pillows, sleeping bags, etc.) and settle in for a few hours. To really get the feeling of camping, you should be going to sleep in a sleeping bag, just like you would do outdoors. Unroll and unzip the sleeping bag and make sure that there is enough room for everyone to lay down when you go to sleep.



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Turn out the lights and use a flashlight. Even though you'll be inside, you can still get the spooky feeling of camping outdoors. Turn out all the lights and use flashlights to replicate the feeling of being outside. Using smaller hand-held flashlights are the best because they aren't too bright but still illuminate the area. Make sure that the batteries in your flashlights still have power.

If you set up early enough you may be allowed to have dinner and or breakfast in camp.

Make and eat s'mores with your family. S'mores are classic snacks during camping trips, and though you don't have an open campfire, you can still make s'mores in the microwave.

- Get a piece of chocolate, a marshmallow and two graham crackers. Stack them into a sandwich with the graham crackers on the top and bottom. Place on a microwave plate and microwave for only 5-7 seconds.
- Make sure you get enough ingredients so that everyone camping can eat a least one s'more.

You should try to limit the amount that you use technology since it is camping.

Try to not watch TV or a movie or else it will be just like any other night.

Play games and activities. Plan out the games and activities you plan on doing beforehand. Since you're inside you can now play a bunch of different types of board games. You can also play games that don't require any pieces like Never Have I Ever, Truth or Dare, or Hide and Seek.

Tell each other scary stories. A fun thing to do while you are camping out indoors is to tell spooky stories to one another. Telling stories to one another is good for social relationships, engage our brain, and trigger our imagination. If you don't know of any scary stories, try looking online, just make sure that there is a parent with you when you are doing it.

Laugh and have a good time. The main point of camping is to have fun, so make sure that you're laughing and enjoying your friends' company. Always try to keep the mood lighthearted and make sure that everyone you invite is also having a great time.

If you'd like you can send a photo of your living room camp sight and tent that we would post on our web site.

Have fun and enjoy living room camping!

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