

OUTDOOR PROGRAMMING



The following is a list to help get those creative juices flowing. You can also find exciting ideas in the Quarterly Resource Guide, Outdoor Skills Progression Charts, as well as on the AHG Girl and Leader websites. There are countless books and websites full of great outdoor programming ideas. A few clicks of a mouse or a quick visit to the library will leave you with an abundance of new ideas!

SERVICE PROJECTS

- Trail Clean-Up
- Park Maintenance
- Create/Maintain a Garden
- Tree Planting
- Volunteering at Local Park/Nature Center
- Creek/Lake Cleanup

ARTS AND CRAFTS

- Sketching
- Nature Poetry
- Natural Sculptures
- Leaf Rubbing
- Natural Dyes
- Flower Press
- Homemade Paper
- Natural Jewelry
- Friendship sticks
- God's Eye
- Yarn Dolls
- Rock Animals
- Wood carving and whittling
- Weaving
- Photography of camp activities
- Spatter prints using ferns/leaves
- Carbon prints of leaves
- Leaf prints out of plaster of Paris

GAMES/SPORTS

- Volleyball
- Relays
- Scavenger hunts
- Capture the flag
- Fishing
- Kickball
- “New Games”
- Frisbee
- Frisbee golf
- Softball
- Lemme sticks
- Archery
- Rock Climbing
- Canoeing

- Locate a canoeing club in your area to see if they would be willing to instruct the girls in their strokes
- Take a canoeing campout

- Kayaking
- Low/High Ropes Course
- Hiking - Take a guided hike by a naturalist or park ranger
- Biking

- Locate local bike trails and take a day-long bike hike
- Plan a bike overnight. Have a parent drop equipment at the intended destination if you do not want to carry everything on the bikes

- Backpacking
- Water or Snow Skiing
- Cave tours
 - Many cities have local caving clubs who are willing to lead Troop tours.
 - Go to a state/national cave and take a guided tour

- Horseback Riding
- Swimming
- Sailing/Wind Surfing

HISTORY

- Native American Lore
- Stories of early settlers
- River stories
- Fossils
- Creation Story
- Star legends

OUTDOOR SKILLS

- Fire building
- Whittling
- Knot-tying
- Lashing
- Cookery
- Trail Signs & Blazes
- Compass/Orienteering
- Shelter building
- Proper use of tools:
 - knife
 - hatchet/ax

- saw

- Races to boil water over a fire
- No match fires
- Primitive Overnight

OUTDOOR COOKING

- One pot meal
- Aluminum foil cooking
- Stick cookery
- Taffy Pull
- Roasting in the ashes
- Steam cooking
- Cooking on a hot rock
- Bean hole
- Reflector Oven cooking
- Dutch Oven cooking
- Box Oven baking

NATURE

- Recognizing poison ivy
- Plant ID
- Animal ID
- Cloud study
- Nature trails
- Nature hunts
- Create Field Guides: leaves, stones, twigs, seeds, shells, fungi, bugs
- Recording animal tracks
- Star gazing
- Weather vanes
- Sundial
- Bottle barometer
- Terrarium for plants
- Study habits of: turtles, toads, snakes, frogs, fish, crayfish, field mice, spiders, ants
- Look for dens or holes of animals
- Learn about birds: color, songs, nests, habits
- Learn about soil erosion and conservation
- Study of trees
- Causes of forest fire
- Tree ID
- Pond Study
- Sunrise hikes
- Night watch
- Owl Prowls
- Creeking
- Weather station
- Birding/Bird Call ID

MUSIC AND DANCING

- Group singing
- Part singing
- Singing games
- Folk dancing
- Nature orchestra

DRAMATICS

- Create outdoor theatre
- Dramatize songs
- Talent Show/Skits
- Shadow 'play' on lighted sheet
- Paper bag or stick puppets
- Poetry
- Costume parties
- Storytelling
- Charades

RAINY DAY ACTIVITIES

- Dramatics and shadow plays
- Crafts
- Storytelling
- Rain hike
- Reading
- Badge work
- Games
- Letter writing
- Journaling

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

- Daily Devotional
- Nature-based Devotional
- Creation Bible Study
- Quiet-time for journaling, praying, etc.
- Outdoor Worship Time
- Nature-based Object Lessons to teach spiritual truths
- Have girls find and share 5 verses about nature