

Camping Gear Checklist (What to Bring)

Please *be prepared* and bring all the items you will need when you go camping. Here is a list that was compiled over the years to help you determine what you may need. When in doubt, bring it!

Sleeping and Shelter

- Tent / Poles / Stakes
- Ground Tarp (Waterproof)
- Sleeping bag
- Cot / Air mattress / sleeping pad
- Pillow
- Mallet; for tent stakes

Optional

- Camp Chair(s)
- Alarm Clock
- Dust broom; to keep tent clean

Clothing:

- Cub Scout Uniform (Class A “Blue Shirt” & Class B “Scout t-shirt”)
- Night Clothes / Pajamas
- Extra clothing (Pants, Socks, Underwear)
- Rain Gear / Poncho
- Warm jacket or sweatshirt
- Durable shoes/boots
- Hat or Cap

Optional

- Sun Glasses

Personal Items

- Toilet Kit (Toothpaste, toothbrush, soap, washcloth, towel, comb)
- Water bottle or Canteen
- Flashlight
- Insect repellent
- Sunscreen
- Personal medication
- Whistle

Optional

- First aid Kit
- Lantern – no liquid gas, battery power only (**BSA requirement*)
- Ear Plugs

Misc. Items

- Pocketknife (Only Cub Scouts who have earned their whittling chip are allowed to have knives)
- Compass
- Scout book

Optional

- Fishing gear
- Small cooler with personal snacks/drinks; non-alcoholic
- Notebook and Pencil
- Camera
- Binoculars

Prohibited Items:

- ⊘ **Firearms, Ammo and Archery Tackle, Fireworks, Alcohol, & Pets.**

Some Camping dos:

- Always watch out for your son and know where he is at all times. Enforce the Buddy System (make sure your son is with a buddy – and knows he is - if he is not physically right there with you.)
- Do a trial set-up your tent before you get on the camping trip. Make sure it is complete and you know how to put it up.
- Plan on it getting colder than you think (bring warmer sleeping bags than the forecast lows unless you are sure you know how warm your sleeping bag is).
- Always bring rain gear (Cub Scout camping is usually fair-weather camping but better safe than sorry)
- Always have a change of clothes to wear to sleep in. This is mainly to stop you getting cold due to moisture in the fabric.
- Always have a tarp to put under your tent. Make sure none of it sticks-out from the bottom of the tent or it will collect rain and make the inside of your tent wet.
- Get your son to do as much of the work in camping as possible (help putting up the tent, carrying stuff, etc.)
- Store any personal food & candy in your car NOT your tent.
- Air-out your tent, tarp, and sleeping bags as soon as you return home to allow condensation to dry-out (otherwise you get a musty smell that's hard to shake).
- Store your sleeping bag loose when you get home, not in its stuff-sack, or it will lose loft (loft gives it warmth).

Some Camping don'ts:

- Never sleep in a tent with a child who is not your own. – (**BSA requirement*)
- No alcohol anywhere, anyhow, anytime. – (**BSA requirement*)
- No smoking in sight of Cub Scouts. – (**BSA requirement*)
- Cub Scouts should not have knives in Tiger and Wolf ranks. Bears and higher ranks can only bring pocket knives if they have completed the “Whittling Chip” pocket knife achievement and if they also bring their Whittlin’ Chip card or badge. No Sheath, butterfly, switchblade knives or knives with a blade longer than 3½”. – (**BSA requirement*)
- Never leave candy/chips or candy/chip wrappers or food of any kind in your tent or in clothes in your tent. Critters can smell it. Always store all such “smellables” in your closed car. This includes open Gatorade and other soda cans, etc. If in doubt leave it in your car.
- Consider leaving behind Nintendo DSs, iPods, or other electronics / game systems. This is the boys’ opportunity to get away from all that. Besides, they could get damaged or lost.
- No precious toys/ jewelry – it could get damaged or lost.