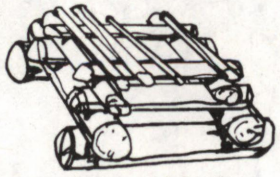
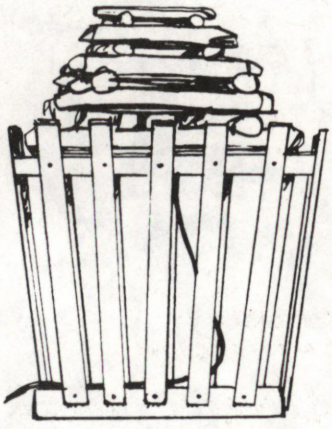
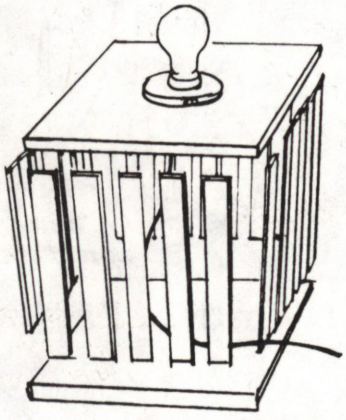
MISCELLANEOUS

MISCELLANEOUS



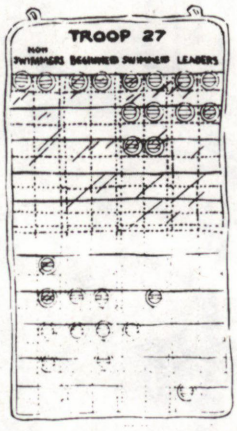
Log cabin fire





Indoor Campfire

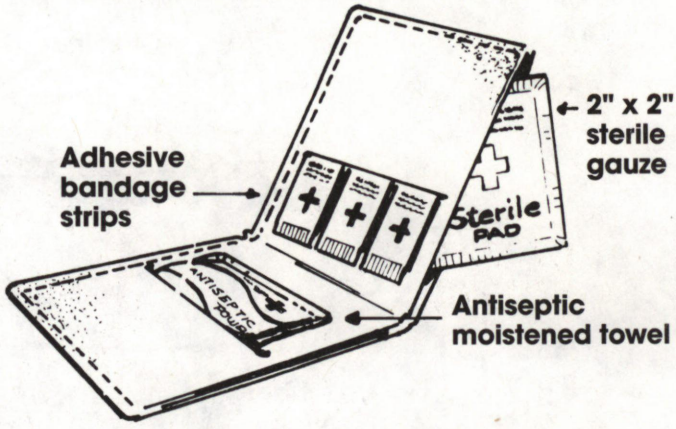
To make campfire, nail logs and sticks together. Place crisscross fire on light stand after red cellophane paper has been crumpled around bulb. Caution: Bulb should not touch cellophane.



Portable Plastic Buddy Board

The portable buddy check board shown here can be made and used by units at all swimming activities. The top section, used for the actual check-in procedure, can be constructed of red oilcloth or colored plastic. The bottom or tag-storage section is made of clear plastic. Clear plastic pockets are then sewn on both sections to enable easy reading of tags. Adaptable to all surroundings, the board can be fastened to a wall at the YMCA pool, a fence at the city pool, or a tree at the unit swimming hole. To carry, fold lengthwise down the center and carefully roll from bottom to ensure keeping tags in place.

Wallet First Aid Kit



Make first aid kit for your wallet. Here's what you need:

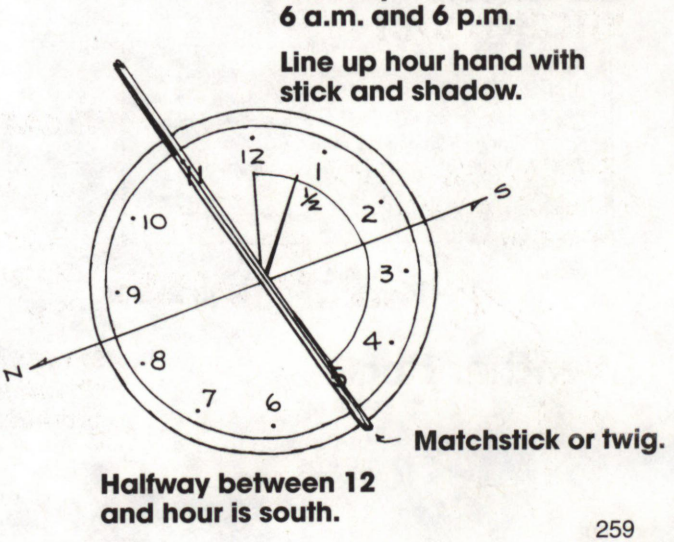
- Two or three adhesive bandage strips
- One 2" × 2" sterile gauze
- Soap leaves (see directions below), or an antiseptic moistened towel

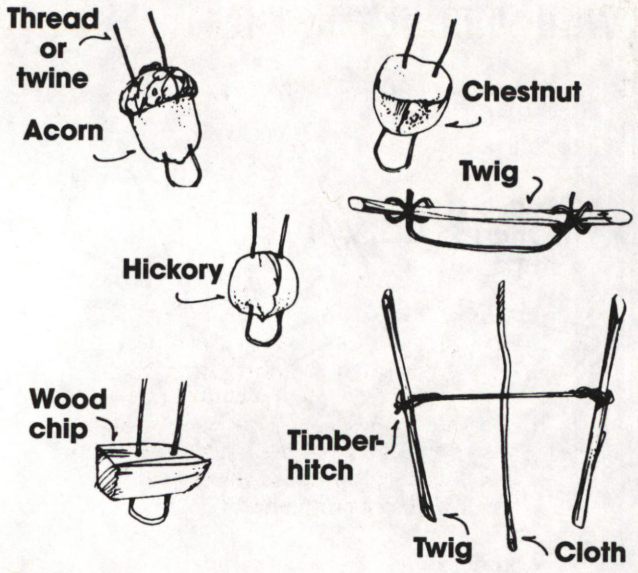
If you also carry a clean handkerchief at all times, you'll have a simple basic first aid kit.

Soap Leaves

Make soap leaves. This is a simple project. Merely soak a paper towel in a solution of 50 percent dish soap and 50 percent water. Lay the towel on a cookie sheet and allow to dry. Cut the paper towel into 2-inch by 3-inch strips and staple together. They can be used to wash up without having the messy wet bat of soap to put away. Simply pull a leaf from the pack and use it.

Wristwatch Compass

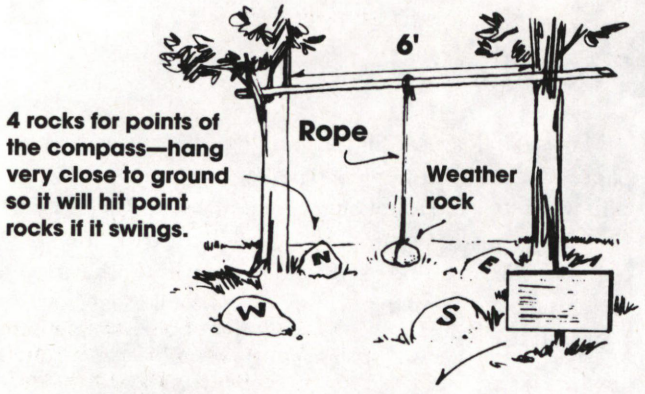


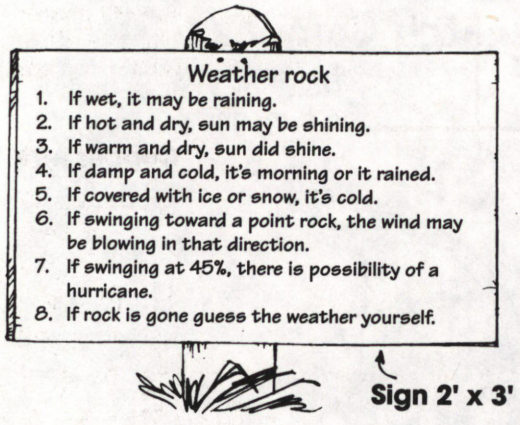


Button Button . . .

Ever have a button come off on a campout? It's really a pain to have to spend the rest of the campout, be it a day or a week, hassling without a button.

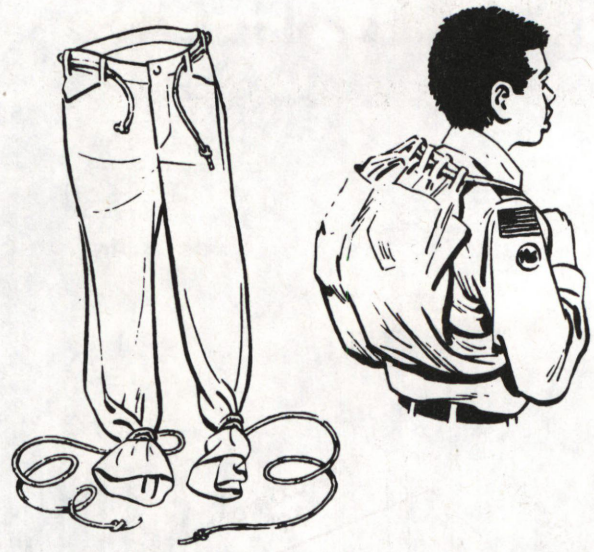
These illustrations show several ways to replace a lost or broken button using nature's own resources.





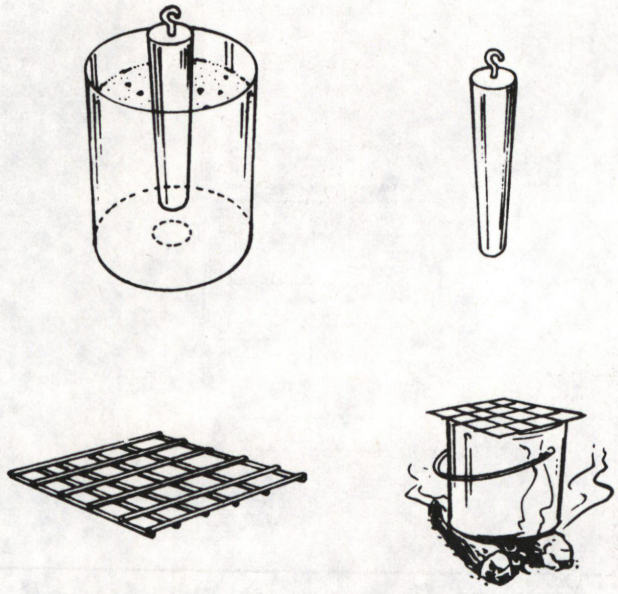
Weather Rock

A weather rock is a fun device for camp or troop site. Make a sign listing directions for use.



Trouser Pack

It won't hold as much as a regular pack, but it will serve for a Scout who can't afford a pack.



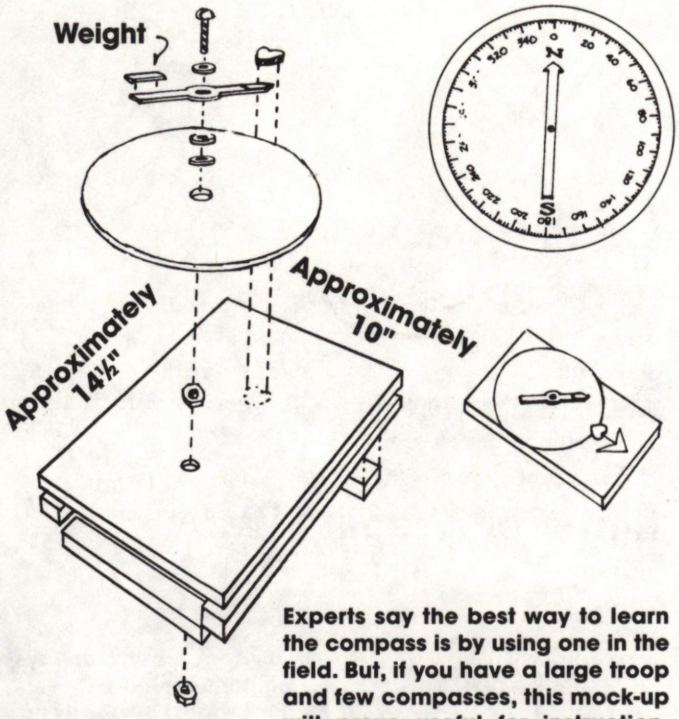
Sawdust Stove

Here's an efficient camp stove, if you can arrange to get sawdust from a lumberyard. A drum of sawdust will burn for 3 to 4 hours

Cut a 2½-inch hole in the base of old 5-gal. can. Make tapered wooden peg 3 inches taller than the can. Taper peg from 3-inch diameter at top to 2½-inch diameter at the bottom. Pack sawdust tightly in can with peg in position in center. Screw peg out carefully. Set drum on bricks or flat stones. Light small fire under base hole to light sawdust.

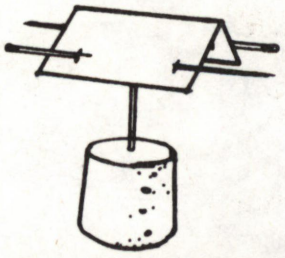
Compasses

COMPASS INSTRUCTION DEVICE

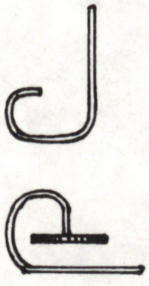


Experts say the best way to learn the compass is by using one in the field. But, if you have a large troop and few compasses, this mock-up will prove useful for instruction. Base is 1-inch lumber. Face is ¼-inch plywood. Needle is weighted so that it points north when the device is held upright.

TWO-NEEDLE COMPASS



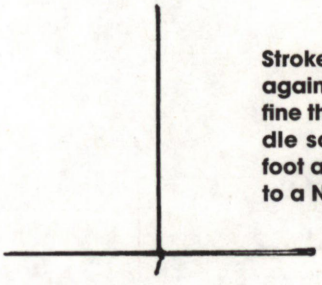
Magnetize two needles with a magnet—the head of one—the point of the other. Fold an inch-square piece of paper, insert needles as shown, and balance the paper on a third needle. The compass should swing north. (Mark north ends.)



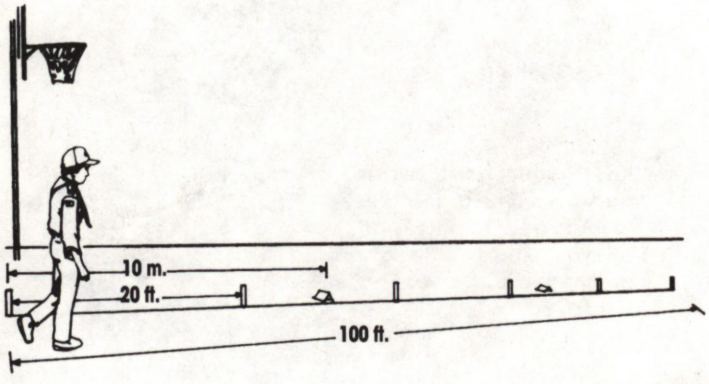
PAPER CLIP COMPASS

Bend a steel paper clip as shown. Stroke the top of the J with a magnet. Balance the compass on a coin or smooth surface and it will line up north-south. (Mark north end with a felt-tip marker.)

WORLD'S SIMPLEST COMPASS



Stroke one end of a sewing needle against one pole of a magnet. Tie a fine thread in the middle of the needle so it balances. Hold thread a foot above needle which will swing to a N-S position. (Mark north end.)



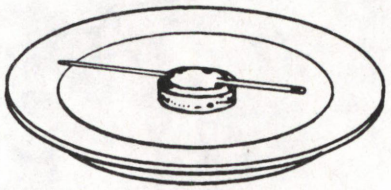
Step Distance Course

Use this Step Distance Course to determine the length of step or pace. (A pace is a double-step.) Have Scouts find their number of paces to cover 100 feet (30.48 meters) at normal walk. Once they have mastered this technique, measuring distances by pace with fair accuracy becomes easy.

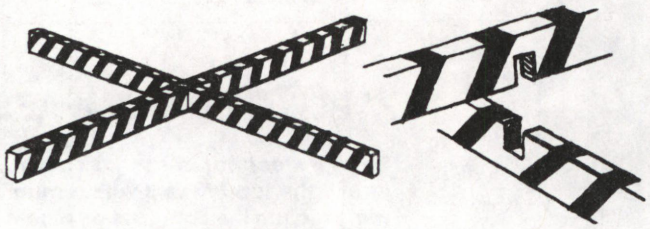
LEMON COMPASS

Push thin strips of copper and zinc into opposite sides of a lemon half and join them with copper wire. Float lemon in a bowl of water. Electrical current flowing through the wire will cause the lemon to turn until the copper points west and the zinc east.

ANOTHER EASY COMPASS



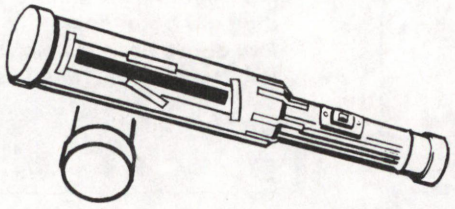
Magnetize a sewing needle with a magnet. Attach it with wax or chewing gum to a cork about ¼-inch thick and float it in a saucer of water. (Color north end with a felt-tip marker.)



Rescue Cross

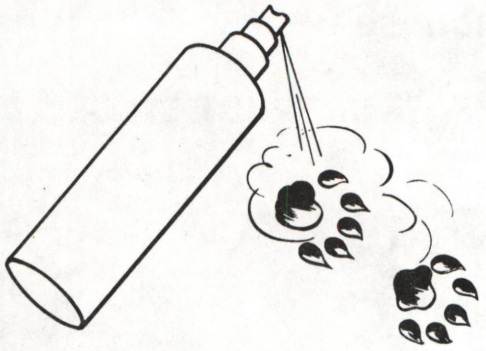
This simple device is an excellent safety measure for an ice-skating outing. It can be pushed ahead to a skater who has fallen through thin ice and will distribute his weight over a large area of ice while he is pulled to safety.

Ladders, planks, and long poles can also be used but they do not distribute the weight as widely.



Night Signaling Gadget

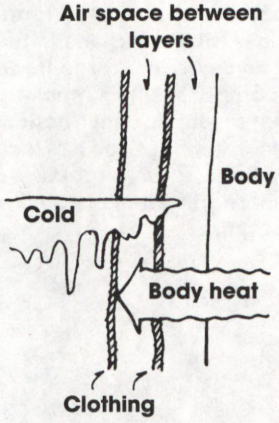
This device can be used to send Morse code by the single-flag (wigwag) method at night. Cut a long slot down the length of a mailing tube and attach to the flashlight by tape. Glue red cellophane over the slot. In single-flag signaling, the flag or flashlight is swung to the sender's right for a dot, to his left for a dash. Holding it vertically indicates interval between letters. The Morse code is in the *Boy Scout Handbook.*



Casting Tracks in Snow

If you find animal or bird tracks in snow, and if the temperature is below freezing, it's not hard to make plaster casts of the tracks. Use an atomizer or spray bottle of some type to spray a mist of water over the tracks. When the water freezes, pour in plaster of paris.

Hints for Keeping Warm



Use air space between layers of clothing and between clothing and your body to keep body heat in and coldness out.

Keep your head warm, particularly your temples, to force heat to other parts of your body. Uncover before you start sweating.

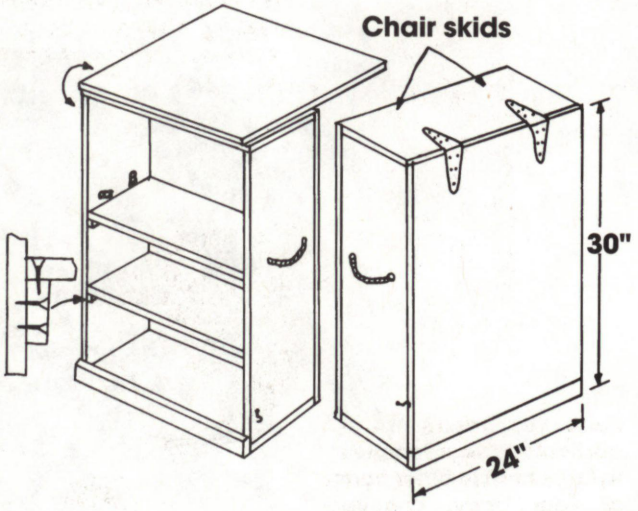
Keep your torso warm with a long jacket that covers the thighs and sends extra body heat to other parts of your body.

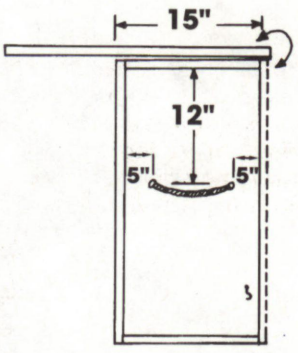
Avoid overheating. Before you start doing something you know will make you sweat, remove some outer clothing.

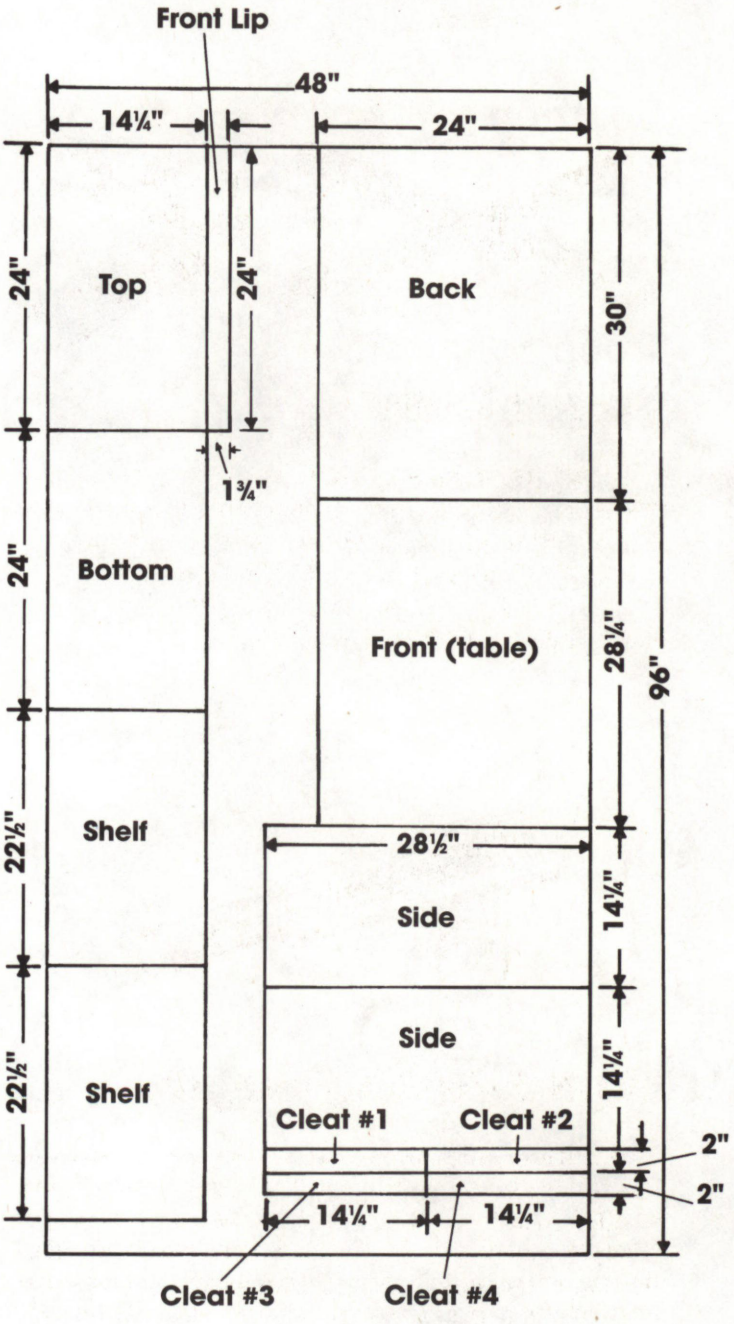
Keep your clothing dry from rain or snow by wearing water-resistant outerwear. This keeps cold wind out, too. But don't use plastic, it's airtight.

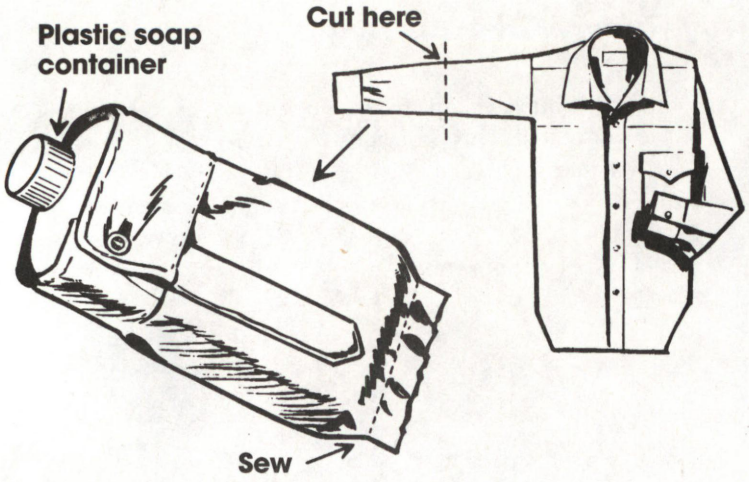
Patrol Chuck Box

In this chuck box, the front swings up and over the top for the work table. This project can be cut from a 4' × 8' sheet of ¾" exterior plywood. Shelves are positioned according to the size of the equipment the patrol wants to store. Assemble with glue and screws. Chair skids are used to support the table top. Use hooks and eyes to keep the legs closed while it is being carried.







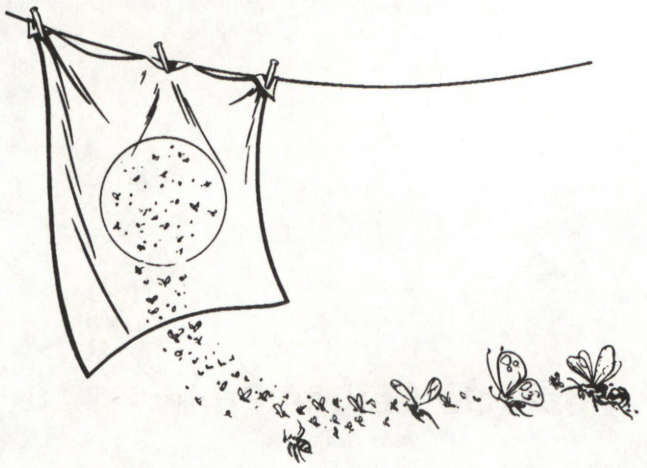


Canteen

Use a one-quart plastic dish soap container or something similar. The cover is the sleeve of an old shirt, cut and sewn as shown here.

Bug Trap

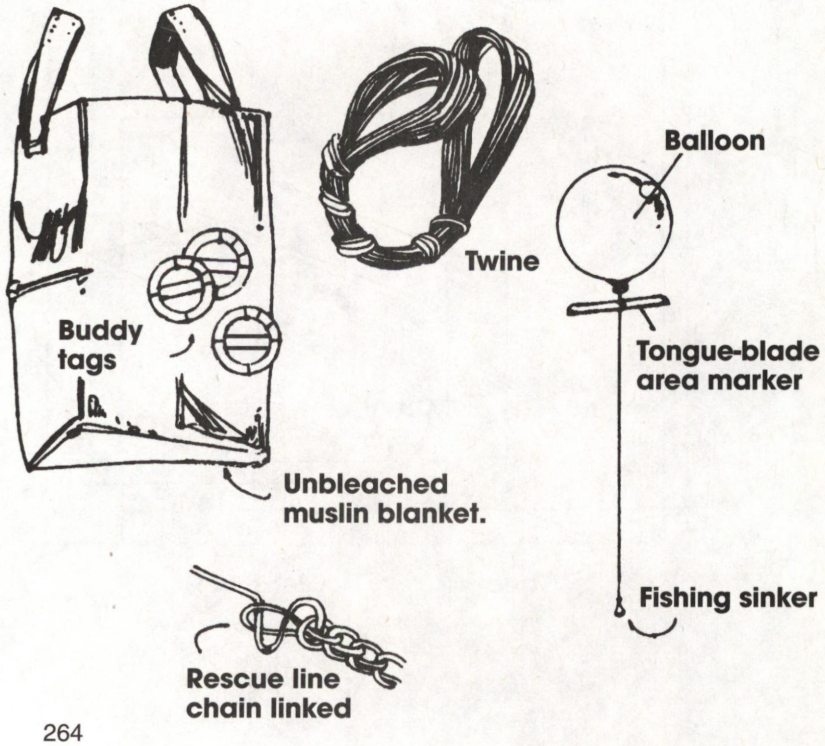
Probably there won't be a shortage of bugs in summer camp. But a Scout working on the Insect Study merit badge may want to catch a variety for study. Tell him to hang up a

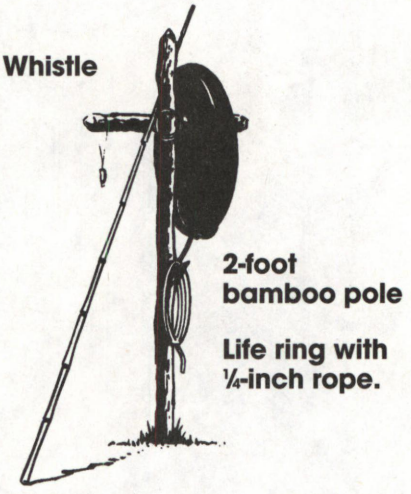


sheet some night and shine a strong light behind it. In short order, he will have a big assortment of bugs which can be plucked off the sheet with ease.

Troop Swim Kit

This troop swim kit contains all the elements for setting up a safe swimming area for the troop. Store in an unbleached muslin bucket that can also be used as a rescue float when wet and inverted. Kit includes buddy tags; 100 feet of twine for boundary lines; six tongue depressors for area markers, each tied with 7 to 12 feet of fishline and with ends weighted with lead sinkers or stones; six balloons to tie over the sticks; 100 feet of ⅜-inch nylon line for rescue line (chain-link it for easy storage).



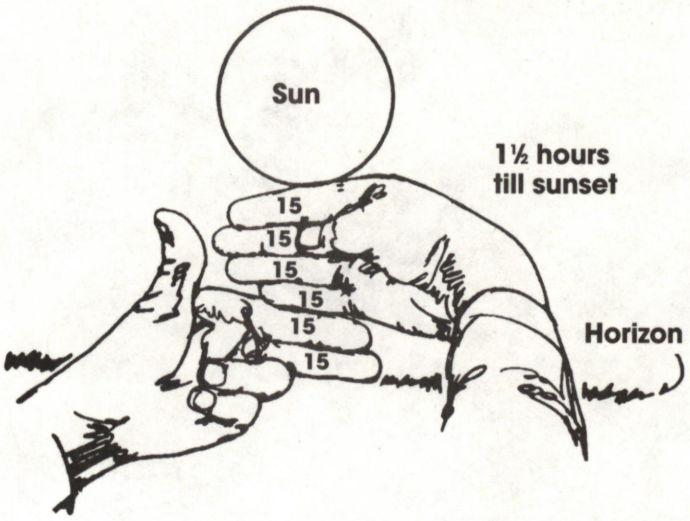


Waterfront Safety Post

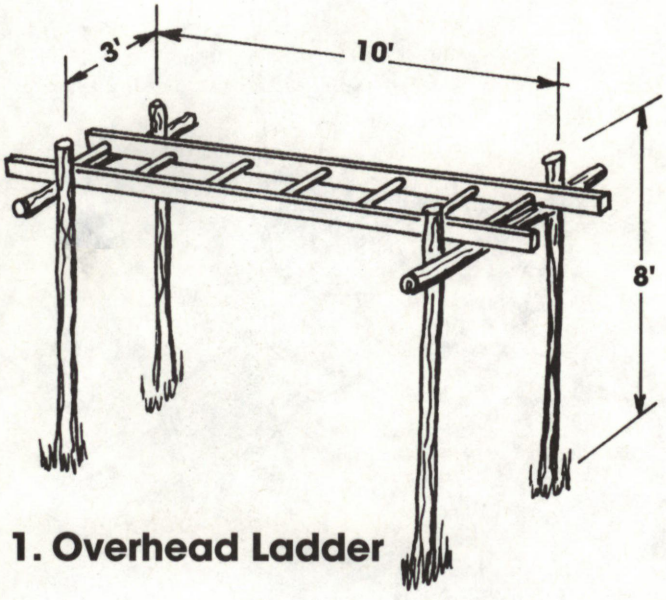
A waterfront safety post is a simple device for safety gear, making it quickly accessible to lifeguards.

Estimating Time

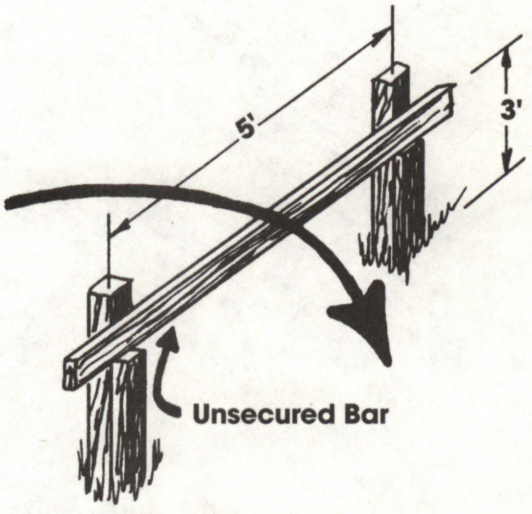
Try this method gauging the time until sunset. Extend arms to full length and position fingers as shown between the horizon and bottom of sun. Each finger represents approximately 15 minutes until sunset.



Obstacle Course Projects



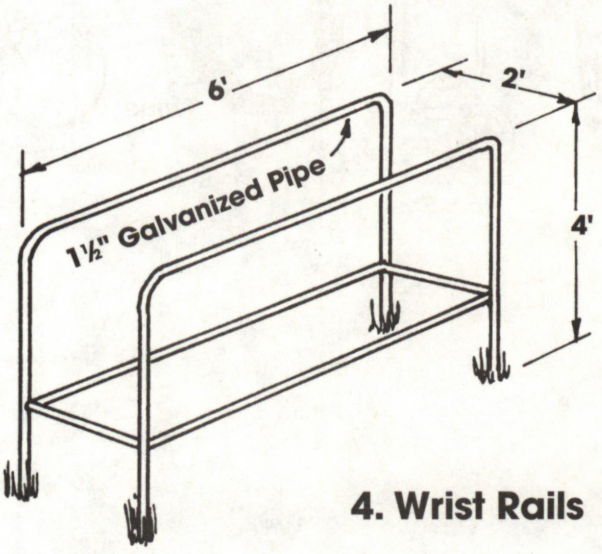
1. Overhead Ladder



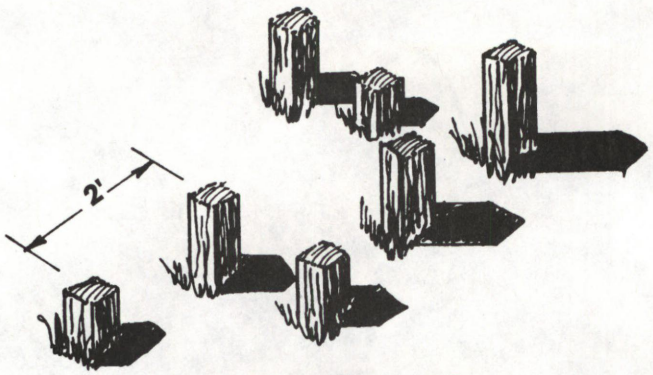
2. Hurdle

3. Log Crossing

Determine length of log based on width of stream

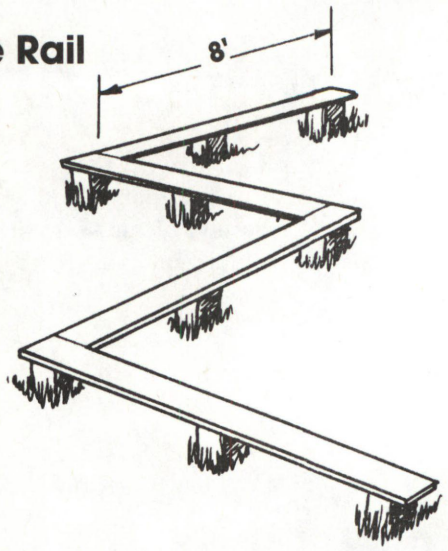


4. Wrist Rails

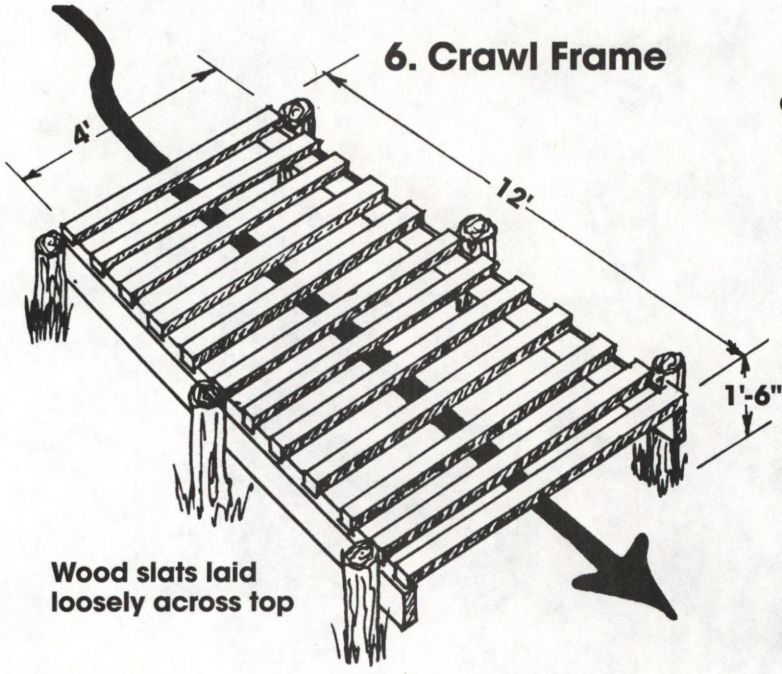


5. Stump Walk

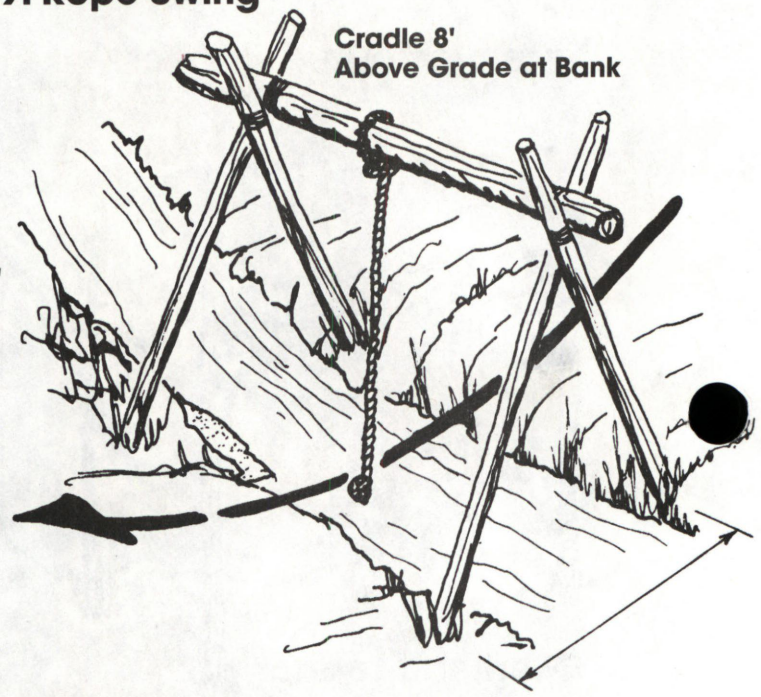
8. Balance Rail



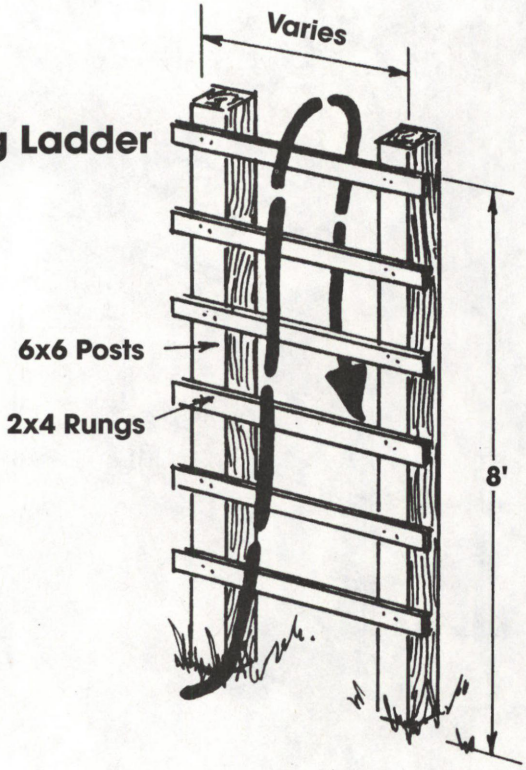
6. Crawl Frame



9. Rope Swing



7. Scaling Ladder



10. Tire Dodge