Instructional Campfire

Opening

- Flag Ceremony - “I am Old Glory”
- Opening Song – God Bless America
- Fire Lighting Ceremony

Why Have A Campfire?

“Because Scouts have always had them.”

And they’ve always had them because they can contribute so much to an outdoor experience.
What Does A Campfire Accomplish?

- It Can offer:
  - Entertainment
  - Fellowship
    - Ideal Time to Offer a Message of Inspiration
  - Education
    - Practice Leadership Skills

Four S’s

- Showmanship
- Songs
- Stunts / Skits
- Stories
  - Planning

Program Planning Skit
What Have We Learned?

A good rule for planning campfire programs is to follow the fire.

Showmanship

• Showmanship is the art of attractive presentation.
• Puts sparkle and life into the gathering.
• Without it the program can fall flat.
• JUST BE YOURSELF!!!
Showmanship

• Opening Ceremony
  • Often includes a dramatic way of lighting the fire.
  • Get underway with plenty of pep.
  • Use lively Songs and Cheers.
  • Sets the tone for the whole program.
  • Must arrest and hold audiences attention.

Showmanship

• Closing Ceremony
  • Quiet and Inspirational.
  • Message comes as fire embers die down.

Songs

• Samples of Different Kinds of Campfire Songs
  Scout Songs “On My Honor”
  Peppy Songs “Miss O’Leary “John Jacob Jingleheimer Schmidt”
  Action Songs “Head and Shoulders, Knees and Toes”
    “One Finger, One Thumb”
  Special Occasion Songs “Happy Birthday”
  Novelty Songs “Hey Ho; “Little Rabbit; “Da Da Da”
  Quiet Songs “Scout Vesper”
  Inspirational Songs “Trail the Eagle; “Hail Scouting Spirit”
Stunts / Skits

• One Purpose – FUN
• Can train and inspire
• Sources
  • Scouting Magazine
  • Boys Life
  • Books of Campfire Skits
  • Imagination of the Scouts
• Must be rehearsed
• And be approved by a Scout Leader

Appropriateness

A good test is to hold them up against the Scout Law’s friendly, courteous, and kind.

Appropriateness

• Gray Areas to Avoid:
  • Underwear
  • Toilet Paper
  • Water
  • Inside Jokes
  • Use of Alcohol, Drugs, or Tobacco
  • Cross-gender impersonation
Campfire Discipline

- Set the standard from the start
  - Flashlights
  - Booing
  - Razing
  - Disruptions
  - Throwing objects

Stories

- Storytelling is an art
- Anyone can acquire with practice
- Need good imagination
- Appreciation of good stories
- A knack for showmanship

Types of Stories

- Ghost
- Humorous
- Adventure
- Hero (inspirational)
- Miscellaneous (general interest)