

Discover Fire

RINGTAIL'S HOLLOW Environment & Outdoors



The Adventure:

Do you know how to build a campfire? Setting things up for a campfire can be easy if you have everything you need close by.

Even with all the right stuff, you have to build your fire the right way if it is going to burn well.

In a fire ring, start by laying sticks out like a raft on the ground. This will keep your fire away from the cold, wet dirt.

Crumple birch bark (gathered from dead trees) on the raft. Put sticks that are no thicker than a pencil on and around the birch bark. Then put sticks that are about as thick as your fingers around the first sticks. Put sticks as thick as a broom handle around all the sticks in the pile, setting them up like a teepee.

If you have plenty more wood on hand, then you have a fire that's ready for your Scouter to light! Good job!



Online Resources:

- Leave No Trace
- The Happy Camper builds a fire

Safety note:

- Never play with fire. Building a campfire is a good skill to master, but learn about fires with help from adults.
- What will you need to put out your fire when it's time to go?

Plan:

- When will you share this Adventure?
- Where can you have a campfire in your community?
- Has anyone in your Colony built a fire before? Can he or she share some tips with the others?
- What help do you need from your Scouters for this Adventure?
- How will you put out your campfire when you are done with it?

Do:

- Gather plenty of good firewood of different sizes, and set up a campfire that is all set to be lit.
- Have a Scouter light the fire, then watch how it burns.
- Enjoy your campfire!

Review:

- What do you know now that you did not know before?
- How did you and your friends work together on this Adventure?
- Who deserves a special pat on the back? How come?
- How did you enjoy your fire after it was lit?
- What would you do differently next time?