

Multi-Day Activities

Weaving Prayers

Supplies: Frame (at least 16" x 20"), yarn, colored paper strips, and markers.

How: In advance, tie one end of the yarn to the frame, about an inch from the corner (ideally with the frame in "portrait" position), and draw the yarn down to the opposite edge, wrapping the yarn around that side directly across from the knot. Draw the yarn back to the first side, wrapping about an inch from the knot. Continue in this way until the whole frame is strung with yarn, tying a knot at the end to secure the yarn in place.

Every morning, invite campers to write their hopes for the day and whatever wilderness encounters they may have on a strip of paper. They should then weave the paper between the yarn. Watch as the frame fills with colorful prayers.

Try This: Write prayers of gratitude in the evening instead.

* This could be a group activity or individual.

Camp Creature

Supplies: Stuffed animal/other mascot and treats.

How: In advance, choose a mascot for the week at camp. Every day, choose a new place for it to "hide" in camp. Invite campers to look for the creature and report their findings to a designated camp leader. Whichever group finds the creature first gets a treat or other prize.

Try This: Invite campers who found the creature on day 1 to decide the hiding place for day 2, etc. They would not be able to play on the day they chose the spot.

It's All Layers

Supplies: Large piece of cardboard, scrap paper, tissue paper, beads, smaller pieces of cardboard, glue, paint, brushes, and masking tape.

How: In advance, tape a large piece of cardboard to a wall. On day 1, invite campers to create a background, covering the entire piece of cardboard. On day 2,

invite campers to add a layer of one of their supplies, showing something of what they are learning that day. Do this on each of the next days to create a collage representing the full span of learning at camp.

Leave a Trail

Supplies: Yarn and strips of scrap cloth.

How: Sometimes, when one is encountering wilderness, it is helpful to be able to see where one has been. Each day, invite campers to "yarn bomb" a space that they have spent time in by wrapping yarn or strips of fabric around a tree, seat, or other object in that space. Invite campers, as the days go on, to visit those places they have marked.

Try This: Invite campers to completely cover an object, creating not only a mark of their presence but a novelty for all who pass that way. These could enable some great photo ops on the last day of camp.

Wilderness Lights

Supplies: Large coffee filters (bleached), watercolor paints, brushes, water, cups, and tape.

How: Over a series of days, invite campers to flatten out and then fold coffee filters. When the filters are creased multiple times, apply watercolor paint, making sure the paint saturates through the layers. Allow time to dry, then unfold and flatten again. Display these wildly patterned pieces in windows all over camp.

Try This: When it is time to put the pieces up, invite campers to surprise the rest of camp by putting them in windows secretly.