

What's the big idea

Forces of Nature



-  Short Activity
-  Long Activity
-  Potential Adventure Skills step
-  Potential Special Interest badge step

Hold a sunrise hike and renew your promise

Hold an outdoor photo competition, with no flash

Go Mirror Signalling

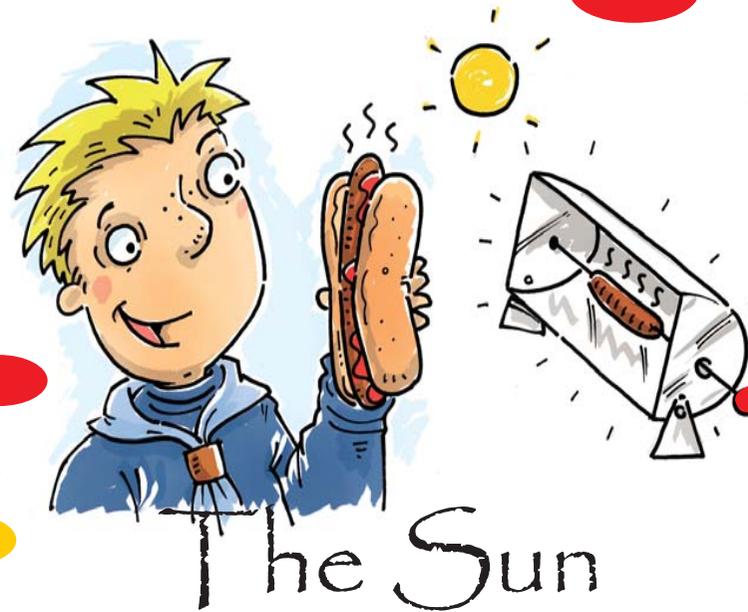
Science : speed of light investigate.

Explore how plants need the Sun to grow.

Light a fire using a magnifying glass

Make a solar powered oven

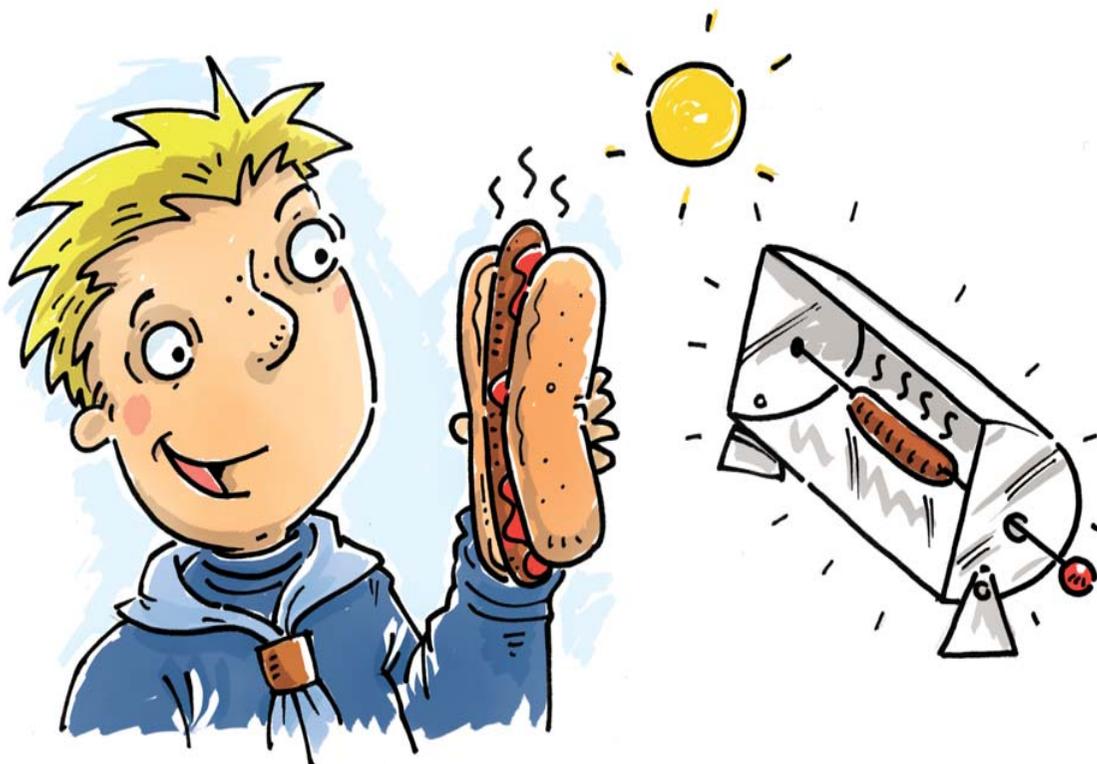
How to protect yourself from the sun.



What's the big idea

The idea of this adventure is an exploration of the Sun as a Force of Nature. The Beaver Scouts are invited to explore the many possibilities of the use of energy from the Sun in an outdoor context. The collected ideas of the Beaver Scouts can then be moulded into an adventure related to the Sun - perhaps a Sun rise or Sun set hike, solar cookers, sun dials etc.

In the 'Tribe' theme the Sun is always present and the provider of light, heat and the growth of plants. As a 'Tribe' closely connect to nature the Sun has a large place in the life of the tribe. Harvest festivals and the traditions of New Grange (sun light box on the 21 December) and the idea of life and rebirth.



The Sun



Ideas on what to do

Plan

Ask the Lodges about the Sun and how to look after yourself out in the sun. They should know about wearing sun screen and also about dehydration. Also explore how the sun can be used to provide energy of all sorts.

Do

Signalling with mirrors is a fun way of finding people in a wide wooded area.

Lighting a fire from a recycled drink can and a bit of chocolate is a neat trick to show what simple things you can do. Just rub the outside bottom of the tin with the chocolate to make it shine and then use this to focus the sun at a piece of paper

Review

Use shadow puppets to show what they thought of the activity. Beaver Scouts provide the voices to the shadow characters on the screen.

Comments

There are loads of possibilities for sun based activities like sun dial, solar power etc.. It is also possible to use the sun to find direction like marking the tip of a shadow of a stick at two interval points. Joining these marks will give the East West direction. REMEMBER to point the stick at the sun!!

Resources

<http://www.wildwoodsurvival.com/survival/fire/cokeandchocolatebar/>