



KOZ Monthly Outdoor Training© January: *Survival - How do you make it through?*

7:30 Leader Meeting and Prayer time. This time is imperative and gives the leadership time to prepare their hearts for the meeting and time with the kids. Do not take this time lightly. Be on-time, meet with God first.

8:30 Kids begin to arrive. Meet parents or guardian (CHECK ALL PAPER WORK).

BEGINNING YOUR MEETING WITH KOZ STRUCTURE

8:45 Begin Meeting.

All together say the *American Pledge of Allegiance*.

KOZ Prayer: Lord, Thank you for making us strong and fierce warriors for you. We hunt, we fish and we share our faith with others. God Bless America. -Amen

Work to get the boys to memorize the KOZ Prayer and use it as a tool for kids who have little experience in praying or are afraid to pray. (Before meals, before an adventure or other times as a reminder of who they are and what they represent).

LEADING INTO YOUR OUTDOORS SKILLS TRAINING

Leader's first questions/discussion. Outdoor Training

Expect the unexpected. Beware of your surroundings. Think ahead about what could happen. Be smart as you get ready for your next adventure. If you are not planning in advance, training, collecting your materials, tools, gear you take the chance that along the way you will put yourself or others in severe danger. Preparation for the danger and problems that may come up during your adventures in the outdoors is crucial. If you head out unprepared the chances are good that something can go terribly wrong and someone is going to get hurt or even worse, killed.

- Have you ever been in a dangerous survival situation? (Leaders might share personal stories here)
- What is the first thing to do in a survival situation? (Be calm, Pray?)
- Have you seen any of the survival TV shows?
- What three things would you want if you were in a survival situation.
- How long can you survive without water (3-4 days)? Food (approx 21 days)?



LEADING INTO YOUR HEART TRAINING

Leader's first questions/discussion: Scripture Training

This Month's Scripture: Psalms 139: 23-24, Search me, Oh God and know my heart. Try me and know my anxious thoughts; And see if there be any hurtful way in me, And lead me in everlasting way.

Leader's first questions/discussion, bible training:

Survival situations can be so important but hopefully, you will never need to use them. Too hot, too cold, lost, hurt and more can all happen if you are not prepared. How can you be prepared for something in your life like someone getting sick, a problem at home or school. Life emergency stuff.

- How many of you have read the bible - it's okay, not many people have. Do you have a favorite verse?
- What do you do when things get tough? (listen to music, hide, go online, talk to friends?)
- Where is God when things are hard?
- Do you ever try to talk to God when things are hard? Does He talk back?
- What is a life survival tool or skill you can think of?

NOTE: Let them talk – leave time between when you say something and they can speak – let it be silent for a while if you have to – they grow close in times of quiet – allow Him to come

STOP & BEGIN OUTDOOR SKILLS TRAINING

BEGIN OUTDOOR SKILLS TRAINING: IDEA TRAIL

Things to do this month:

- Put together a first aid kit for each boy
- Teach shelter building, fire making, water purification
- Teach the boys how to read a map, topographic map, use compass
- Invite in a specialist, firefighter or EMS for training in First Aid
- Read several survival stories and talk about the mistakes and positive actions
- Take boys to fire station and learn about wilderness fires and gear
- Take Red Cross first aid class or similar
- Make survival bracelets

**Note always add an EXTREME element to your KOZ day. Be creative.*

FIELD NOTES: If you teach a small group of topics they can take away lifelong skills. Try creating several different areas and break the boys up into teams. Have a competition.



Other places for good information and literature. The internet always has resources but be careful there are some bad sites with poor information.

- Boy Scouts: Wilderness Survival Manual - see online Scouting.org
- Boy Scout Trail: Survival Kit Materials - www.boyscoutstrail.com/boy-scouts/survivalkit.asp
- Wilderness College: Top Survival Lessons and Info - www.wildernesscollege.com/basic-survival-skills.html

Got other plans for this month?

IMPORTANT: Use the opening/use the close, prayer/ sit spots and prayer cards.

Lots of groups use the foundation of KOZ on some months and provide other opportunities for their kids. Everything from sledding to swimming, hiking to fly fishing. The key to going off the trail is to keep the structure in place.

Get them outside move their bodies, adventure and exploration. Keep it exciting, keep it real, be intentional about bringing them into a relationship with Christ.

OUTDOOR TRAINING CONCLUSIONS

Ask pointed questions on the outdoor skills they learned today.

Drive home a point, hand out literature or take home materials, brochure from parks dept. or other.... A gallon plastic Ziplock bag with their name on it works great each month to collect their take home materials.

- Basic knowledge of survival skills is essential
- What are the top three things you should know?
- How long can you live without: Water, Food, other?
- What are the signs of hypothermia? Heat stroke?
- Can you trust a cell phone or GPS along to be your safety tool in case of emergency?
- **Stop, Plan, Execute, Assess & Re-evaluate**



WINTER SURVIVAL IN 3'S



SCRIPTURE TRAINING AND HEART TAKEAWAY

This Month's Scripture: Psalms 139: 23-24, Search me, Oh God and know my heart. Try me and know my anxious thoughts; And see if there be any hurtful way in me, And lead me in everlasting way.

KOZ: *There are so many times in our life, in our day, that we get confronted with a decision. Sometimes it is really no big deal, do I want cheese on my burger or no? Should I wear these socks or go get my favorite ones from the laundry. Then there are ones that are more important. Should I go study or watch another TV show? And even more serious. They invited me to a party with drugs, should I go? I could take that and nobody would know. Should I tell my parents or an adult about what happened or keep it to myself?*

Every decision we make means something. When you ask Jesus in your heart everything changes. You can't live your life doing the same things, make those bad decisions anymore without knowing in your heart it is wrong. He will help you be prepared for hard things. Talking to Him in prayer and reading your bible is what you do to prepare for the biggest adventure of your life - your life as a follower of Jesus.

REMIND THEM: God has made you as an amazing person. Individual, special and unique. If you have not heard that for a while, I want to tell you that. I care about you, you matter to me. Talk to me if you need to talk.

THE SIT SPOT AND GOD

SIT SPOT Purpose:

- Pass out a blank index card and pen. Tell them if they want you to pray for them or something going on to please write it on the card and you will pray for them this week. *It is a private prayer between your leaders and them, they don't have to put their name on the card. If they don't have a prayer, tell them to just put their name on the cards.*

TO PONDER: *Give the boys something to ponder, use the questions above, and ask them to go to a sit spot - let them stay while you prepare lunch (quietly without distracting the quiet moment) - (15-30 min.)*

- **SEND LEADERS TO SIT SPOTS!** *If a leader is not assigned a task have them also find a sit spot. It is good for the boys to see the adult leaders doing the same as they are asked to do. **QUIET TIME IS ESSENTIAL***



LUNCH & KOZ LEADERSHIP TAG GUIDANCE

CALL BACK FOR LUNCH - While they are eating lunch –

DOG TAGS ARE A HUGE MOTIVATOR Ask boys if they are working toward KOZ TAGS. Greenhorn, Coyote, LIT, HTL. This is a good time to teach this material.

GIVE A BOY HIS NAME IN KOZ We have found that giving boys a nickname is a huge tool for them. Giving a boy a “New Name” has been a game changer for many. A strong, fierce name is important. Jesus and His Father both gave new names. Ask prayerfully what name a boy should have. The leaders decide **NOT** the boys. It is an honor bestowed, even if funny.



As you wait for the parents to arrive:

- Tell the boys you love them. That they are important. That if they have not prayed to ask Christ into their hearts to come talk to a KOZ HTL (**ROMANS 10:9**).
- If a kid wants to be baptized, have them talk to you about it - you can do it somewhere really cool!

Perform a service project on site. Clean up any trash or debris. Teach the boys to ALWAYS leave your area BETTER than it was when you got there. **Parents arrive. Greet them, tell them how good their kid did.**

TELL THEM TO INVITE A FRIEND NEXT MONTH!