

Challenge Card Beeswax Wraps

Suited to Section



Joey Scouts



Cub Scouts



Scouts



Venturer Scouts



Rover Scouts

Challenge Area



COMMUNITY



PERSONAL GROWTH



OUTDOORS



CREATIVE

Key SPICES growth



SOCIAL



PHYSICAL



INTELLECTUAL



CHARACTER



EMOTIONAL



SPIRITUAL

Likely Scout Method elements



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



LEARNING BY DOING



NATURE AND THE OUTDOORS



PATROL SYSTEM



PERSONAL PROGRESSION



PROMISE AND LAW



SYMBOLIC FRAMEWORK



YOUTH LEADING, ADULTS SUPPORTING

Summary statement

In this activity Scouts will learn how they can reduce the amount of plastic they use and replace single-use plastic wraps with reusable beeswax wraps.

Younger sections will need adult assistance with using an oven in this activity

Challenge Card Beeswax Wraps

Plan

1. Ask your Unit to consider the purpose of the activity.
 - a. What happens to single-use plastics once we throw them out?
 - b. What does plastic do when it enters the natural environment?
 - c. What is the purpose of Beeswax wraps and why are they a good alternative for plastic wraps?
2. Let participants know what resources and equipment they will need for this activity:
 - a. Tables
 - b. Newspaper - to protect the tables
 - c. Wooden panels, cork or chopping boards - for the jars to sit on after being heated
 - d. Fabric measuring tape
 - e. Cardboard templates (33cm by 33cm)
 - f. 50g of food grade beeswax per participant
 - g. 33cm by 33cm square of 100% cotton fabric per participant
 - h. Baking trays
 - i. Old paint brushes (that you won't want to use again)
 - j. Pinking shears and scissors
 - k. Stoves, oven(s), oven mitts, large glass jars, and metal pots for double boiler

Do

1. Put your solid beeswax into jars, then place the jars into a double boiler and heat until melted. Make sure lids are secure on the jars so water doesn't get into the wax!
2. Preheat your oven(s) to 180°C.
3. Get Scouts to choose their preferred fabric and then cut it to size with the cardboard templates.
4. Place cut fabric onto a baking tray, then paint it with the melted beeswax. Be careful, the beeswax will be hot! Try to make sure the beeswax touches all the edges.
5. Place baking tray(s) into the oven(s) to help the wax absorb into the fabric. Once the wrap is clear (1-2 mins) remove the tray(s) from the oven(s) using oven mitts.
6. Immediately hang the wraps onto a clothesline or swing them gently in the air until they're cooled and set. Be careful, the beeswax will be hot! You might want to use tongs for this bit.

Review

1. Bring your Unit together and talk about how the activity went:
 - a. Would you do anything differently next time? If so what?
 - b. If a plastic wrap and a beeswax wrap were available to you, which one would you pick to cover your food and why?
2. After a couple of weeks bring your Unit together and ask them who is using their beeswax wrap regularly instead of a plastic wrap. Does the answer surprise anyone?
3. If your wrap is no longer staying in the shape you want it to, you can do the following to make it usable again:
 - a. Place your beeswax wrap onto some thick cardboard and place baking paper on top of your beeswax wrap.
 - b. Iron your beeswax wrap and you will see the beeswax remelt onto the wrap, make sure you move the iron around to ensure even coverage.