THE BLIZZARD RUN

Scouting America
Cascade Pacific Council

WINTER RESCUE CHALLENGE

Winter Themed Open House
Guide for Packs & Troops

60-75 MINUTES
YOUTH K-12 AND PARENTS



ADVENTURE AHEAD CAMPAIGN * CASCADE PACIFIC COUNCIL, SCOUTING AMERICA

DITCH THE SPEACH,
SHOW THEM THE ADVENTURE

Immediate buy-in through hands-on creativity, build, pull, tie, and race activities

Buddy system pairs visiting youth 1-on-1 with current Scouts

Parents witness real skills: fire-starting, knot tying, gear building—no screens, teamwork, creativity

Turnkey setup with low-cost, recycled materials





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LOW-COST, ZERO-STRESS SUPPLIES

Cardboard sleds: 10-15 large appliance/bike boxes (free from local shops)

Hardware: 4-6 rolls heavy-duty duct tape, 50+ ft paracord utility rope, utility scissors/box cutters (leader-supervised)

Skill pitstop gear: **For Troops**: ferro/wood rods + cotton balls w/petroleum jelly + metal trays. Knot cord, rope
For Packs: Fire Lay Challenge fun food Supply compasses - handmade or other; sleeping bags or gear packs, trophies, and decor

Course setup: 6-8 traffic cones, Tape, string, or fun course set items, 2 tarps, foam dodgeballs (“snowballs”) Station Challenge decor

Campfire bar: hot cocoa packets, thermoses of hot water, marshmallows, candy canes, cookies



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KEEP THE ENERGY MOVING

0:00–0:10	0:10–0:30	0:30–0:45	0:45–1:00	1:00–1:15
WELCOME & BUDDY PAIRING	**PHASE 1: CARDBOARD SLED LAB**	**PHASE 2: SKILL STATIONS**	**PHASE 3: BLIZZARD RUN**	**PHASE 4: COCOA BAR & PARENT CONVERSION**
name tags, Scout co-pilots assigned	design and build sleds	fire, knots, compass skills to earn cargo	timed obstacle race	tally points, patches, connect with parents



BUILD THE RIG

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THE CHALLENGE

Transform flat cardboard into a functional winter toboggan or rescue sled - GET CREATIVE!

SCOUT SKILLS

Punch pull-holes and reinforce with duct tape
Lash pull lines with bowline or two half-hitches

HOLIDAY CUSTOMIZATION |

Add mascots, callsigns, racing stripes, and flags with markers and stickers, team flare!

LEADER ROLE

Assist with box cutters for trimming thick edges safely



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PHASE 2 – ARCTIC SKILL PITSTOPS (15 MINS)

TROOPS - EARN YOUR RESCUE CARGO



SPARK THE FROSTBITE FIRE

Troops: Use ferro rod + cotton ball on metal tray to start flame.
Packs: replace flame with The Edible Fire Lay Challenge



LASH THE PAYLOAD

Secure camp, cargo or gear pack or sleeping bag with appropriate scout knot or taut-line hitch or other. Make sure it works!



COMPASS NAVIGATION

Take sled / bearing to locate hidden “lost hiker” A teammate or (stuffed animal or beacon) through the course and hit the stations

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PHASE 2 – ARCTIC SKILL PITSTOPS (15 MINS)

PACKS - EARN YOUR RESCUE CARGO



BUILD THE EDIBLE FIRE!

For Cub Scouts and if indoors use The Edible Fire Lay Challenge, have a kit of pretzle sticks, candy corn, coconut shavings to build a proper fire lay on a tray



LASH THE PAYLOAD

Secure gear cub scout backpack or sleeping bag or cub scout supplies onto the sled with cub appropriate knot or taut-line hitch



COMPASS NAVIGATION

Take sled / bearing to locate hidden “lost hiker” a teammate or for cub scouts it can be a (stuffed animal or beacon)

THE MAIN EVENT

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CREVASSE SALOM

Pull sled through a pre-set zigzag course of tinsel-wrapped cones or resources at hand without knocking them

ICE BRIDGE (DODGEBALL ALLEY)

Cross slick tarp while dodging foam “snowballs” thrown by leaders

RESCUE TURNAROUND

Co-pilot exits sled, crawls under camo net, tags rescue target, loads it, and sprints to finish

CARDBOARD SLEDS SLIDE SMOOTHLY

on gym floors, carpet, linoleum, or damp turf, even outside on grass!



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TAILOR THE CHALLENGE TO YOUR UNIT & YOUR RESOURCES!

CUB SCOUT PACKS (K-5TH GRADE)		SCOUTS BSA TROOPS (6TH-12TH GRADE)
CARGO: STUFFED ANIMALS, WRAPPED GIFTS, HOMEMADE COOKIES, PLUSH MASCOTAS		CARGO: HUMAN PASSENGER PAYLOADS REQUIRING STURDY SLEDS, MAKE A CHALLENGE
FOCUS: FUN HOLIDAY DECORATIONS, SIMPLE KNOTS, TEAM SPIRIT, SHORT SPRINT HEATS, TEAMWORK	VS.	FOCUS: PIONEERING LASHINGS, TIMED COMPASS BEARINGS, BRACKET-STYLE TIME TRIALS, RESOURCEFULNESS
SAFETY: USE FIRELAY BUILDING WITH FOOD NOT A REAL FLAME. ADULTS HANDLE CUTTING; KIDS FOCUS ON ASSEMBLY AND DECORATING		SAFETY: YOUTH CONDUCT PATROL INSPECTIONS AND RUN COURSE INDEPENDENTLY, TOOL SAFETY, RESOURCES, FLAME SAFETY, TOOL KNOWLEDGE

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HOW TO SEAL THE DEAL

Make this as creative as your Unit is! Celebrate together and connect families to what's next!

Show how one hour opens the door to campouts, hikes, and adventure

Share the next three campouts and / or open house meetings

- Be sure to have a sign out list
- Do you have all new family contact and address info?
- Let parents register on the spot
- Invite them to your next Open House Meeting or Activity

