

CANOE SURVIVAL KIT



Setting out for a day on the lake seems like something to enjoy, not survive! But you never know when an emergency might occur. So it's good to be prepared. Here are ten things you shouldn't be without, even on a short canoe trip.

1. **Knife:** A knife could be the most important tool in your kit. From cutting tree branches to opening cans, a knife can have many different uses.
2. **Insect Repellant:** Who would think you would be worrying about bugs when there might be bears around? But mosquitoes can attack like dive-bombers in the night. Get the strongest bug spray you can find.
3. **Sunscreen:** You don't need sunburn to make your problems even worse. Be sure to cover yourself well, whether in an emergency or not.
4. **Whistle:** If you're lost and trying to get help, the sound of a whistle travels a lot farther than your voice. And it keeps your voice from getting too tired.
5. **Compass:** This might be yesterday's technology, but it works when there's no WIFI or cell phone signal. It's easy to go around in circles when you're lost and tired. A compass can help you figure out what direction you're going.
6. **Matches:** You might need a fire for warmth and protection. So be sure to have some wooden matches in a waterproof container.
7. **Mirror:** No, it doesn't matter what you look like! A mirror will help you flash signals that can be seen from far away.
8. **Plastic Cape or Poncho:** Get a bright-colored poncho that folds up into a small package. It could make the difference between being cold and wet or dry and comfortable. It can also be used for a waterproof shelter or a ground sheet to sleep on.
9. **Metal Cup:** You're going to need something to drink from. You can use it to heat up water or food on the fire.
10. **First Aid Kit:** Be sure to have some band-aids, disinfectant and gauze to patch up small cuts.



BEFORE YOU READ

Have you ever been in a canoe? Before you read, watch this 2-minute video on Canoeing from CBC Kids: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rPQiYvGwZlk>

WHILE YOU READ

Do you agree with this list? As you read, put a check mark beside each item that you think is important.

AFTER YOU'RE DONE READING

1. Which do you think is the most important thing on the list? Why do you think so?
2. The author is trying to be funny when she says, "No it doesn't matter what you look like." Why does she say that?
3. What are three things you might use a knife for?
4. What are 2 things you learned that you didn't know before? What are 2 things you still wonder?
5. Do some internet research: Can you find the answers to your wonderings?



I LEARNED/I WONDER

**2 THINGS I
LEARNED**

Two large, left-pointing arrows are arranged vertically. Each arrow has a rectangular box attached to its tail, intended for writing two things learned.

Two large, right-pointing arrows are arranged vertically. Each arrow has a rectangular box attached to its tail, intended for writing two things wondered.

**2 THINGS I
WONDER**



Are you interested in reading a novel about a canoe trip?

The Rapids is a chapter book about two boys who go on a canoe trip with their dad. The dad gets hurt and the boys have to get everyone to safety.

[Read more about this book here.](#)

