

MATCH AS A TOOL WORKSHOP

When camping the match is a very important tool. It is the first step in learning how to build a survival fire. Notify the parent that their child will be learning how to light a match. Explain the importance of not “playing” with matches, and that a match is a tool.

This workshop should be done with **one to one adult supervision**. You will need:

small square of foil
small stable table candle with an easily accessible wick
sturdy hand held candle
box of kitchen matches
cup of water
First aid and ice available
Optional:
smaller sized wooden stick matches & a book of matches

Set up:

On a table, place foil on table with candle in the middle. For right handed child, box of matches on left and cup of water on the upper right. Opposite for a left handed child.

Level One:

1. make sure the child's hair is tied back; pull up sleeves or loose clothing around wrists and hands. No dangling necklaces or hoodie ties.
- 2. Explain---once the match is lit, do not tilt it flame end down**
3. demonstrate entire procedure, esp. how to safely hold the lit match:
4. pick up the box of matches in the left hand, take one out and close the box.
5. strike match on box. Hold match horizontal or flame end slightly up.
6. put box of matches down on table.
7. light the candle.
8. raise the match slightly to the right of candle (for right handed) and gently blow it out.
9. drop it in the cup of water.
10. carefully blow out the candle, as to not blow wax.
11. repeat exercise until the child is comfortable lighting the match.

Level Two:

Instead of the table candle, use the hand held candle.

1. Same safety precautions. Demonstrate this procedure:
2. pick up box of matches, remove one match, close box.
3. Strike and light the match.
4. put box of matches down.
5. pick up candle with left hand and light it. Hold candle upright.
6. move match slightly to the right and gently blow it out
7. drop it in the cup of water.
8. gently blow out the candle
9. repeat exercise until child is comfortable

Advanced: Use the smaller sized wooden stick matches.

Very Advanced: Learning to light a match from a book of matches.