

Celebrate Camp Fire!

Camp Fire USA National Project



Purpose: Celebrate Camp Fire USA's Birthday each year by giving service and contributing to the future growth of Camp Fire.

Outcomes:

- Greater self-awareness
- Increased knowledge of governance process and teamwork
- Youth make program choices and plan sequentially
- Extended friendship circles
- Increased competency in and appropriate application of basic learning skills

Requirements:

Participants complete activity requirements during the month of March. One activity should be completed during birthday week. Participants receive one purple bead (#B07300) after each activity requirement is completed. The recognition emblem is awarded for completion of four activities. The Celebrate Camp Fire! emblem's design is different each year. See your council or the Camp Fire USA Online Store at www.campfireusa.org for the current design.

Activity Requirements:

1. Wear the official Camp Fire USA uniform or other Camp Fire clothing at least one day during birthday week.
2. Make posters or a display telling about Camp Fire USA for a store, school, or place of worship. Use the theme of the birthday, if possible. Show the activities participants do in Camp Fire.
3. Contribute to the Friendship Fund to help Camp Fire USA grow. The Friendship Fund honors Edith Kempthorne who helped hundreds of thousands of young people have the opportunity to be Camp Fire participants. A worldwide traveler, Edith Kempthorne organized a Camp Fire group in Juneau, Alaska, in 1913. All Friendship Fund contributions are used to extend the Camp Fire program to new people and to new communities. Participants may give a penny, a nickel, or a dime for each year of their age. Send contributions to:
Friendship Fund
Camp Fire USA
1100 Walnut Street, Suite 1900
Kansas City, MO 64106
4. Attend a Sabbath, Sunday service, or other religious event where the Camp Fire USA Birthday is being recognized. Wear Camp Fire attire and actively participate in the service or event if possible.

5. Participate in an area or council-wide carnival, fair, camporee, or other activity to tell the community about Camp Fire USA.
6. Participants can share Camp Fire USA's birthday with all the students in their school class. They can bring refreshments and tell their classmates about Camp Fire.
7. Have a birthday party, meeting, or ceremonial. Make decorations and plan refreshments using the birthday theme. Participants may want to share their party with other Camp Fire USA groups or with persons interested in participating in Camp Fire.
8. Do a community service project. Show the love of Camp Fire USA by sharing a gift of love: spending time with a lonely person; making birthday boxes for hospitals to give patients; or contributing time to a community improvement project.
9. Honor a person or persons who live the Camp Fire USA ideals, such as a person who leads an ecology project in the community or a person who has been a Camp Fire volunteer for many years. Give the person a birthday cake or certificate of appreciation.
10. Learn about Camp Fire USA's history in the council or nationally. Read parts of *Wo-He-Lo: The Camp Fire History*. Talk to people in the community who were Camp Fire participants many years ago.
11. Recruit a new participant for your group or help organize a new group.
12. Make and fly kites that say "I Love Camp Fire USA" or other words from the birthday theme.
13. Create and perform a poem, play, public show, dance, or song about Camp Fire USA.
14. Talk about what Camp Fire USA participants might be doing on a future Camp Fire birthday. How about Camp Fire's 125th birthday in 2035? Will they still be involved with Camp Fire? If so, how? What might society be like in the year 2035?
15. Let the group choose their own activity. This may be something special already being done in your council or community.

Tips for teachers, leaders, or coordinators:

- Encourage all participants to join in the annual Camp Fire USA birthday celebration. Camp Fire USA Birthday Week is in March. The specific dates vary but always include March 17—Founder's Day.
- The basic requirements for the project are the same from year to year. Each year, they can be adapted to incorporate the current birthday theme. Your council will tell you the dates and the national theme each year. Youth are encouraged to select different activity requirements each year.
- Absolutely Incredible Kid Day (AIKD) is an annual, national call to action asking adults to write letters of support and encouragement to America's youth. Each year on the third Thursday of March, Camp Fire USA encourages adults to let kids know just how valuable they are. This is an excellent opportunity for you to encourage families to write letters to Camp Fire participants and other youth to whom they want to write a letter of support. Your council may have some special activities during this day.