OUTDOORSMAN TOOLKIT

First family camping trip

A checklist for one night at a drive-in campground. Adapt it to your family, weather and campsite rules.

Destination / site: _____

Dates: _____ Backup destination / exit: _____

Before booking

- ☐ Confirm toilets and potable water
- ☐ Check access, arrival and checkout times
- ☐ Check weather and site alerts
- ☐ Confirm food storage and fire rules
- ☐ Identify safe storm shelter and route out

Practice and pack

- ☐ Pitch tent with everyone's beds inside
- ☐ Check poles, stakes, pads and bedding
- ☐ Dry sleepwear, layers and waterproofs
- ☐ Spare clothes, socks and towels
- ☐ Working lights and spare power
- ☐ Toiletries and handwashing supplies
- ☐ Personal medication and first-aid kit
- ☐ Age-specific feeding and toilet items
- ☐ Appropriate infant sleep setup, if needed
- ☐ Book or small familiar comfort item

Food and water

- ☐ Familiar dinner and simple breakfast
- ☐ No-cook backup and accessible snacks
- ☐ Drinking water and refill plan
- ☐ Cooler and safe storage for perishables
- ☐ Required wildlife-resistant storage
- ☐ Cooking, washing and rubbish supplies

At camp

- ☐ Confirm site and check for hazards
- ☐ Walk to toilets together
- ☐ Explain visible campsite boundaries
- ☐ Assign adult supervision during setup
- ☐ Set up shelter and dry bedding first
- ☐ Keep cooking outside, children clear
- ☐ Store food and scented items correctly
- ☐ Set out lights and nighttime essentials
- ☐ Toilet visit, dry clothes, familiar story

Our family's extra needs

Before bad weather: know where to go. A tent is not safe lightning shelter. Leave for a substantial building or enclosed hard-topped vehicle when thunder is heard; wait at least 30 minutes after the last thunder before returning outside.

Use with outdoorsmantoolkit.com/camping-with-kids/ · Weather guidance: weather.gov/safety/lightning-tips · Infant sleep: HealthyChildren.org/AAP safe-sleep guidance. Local rules and individual care needs take priority.