

The
7
Scariest Things
about
Camping with Kids



Free PDF Workbook

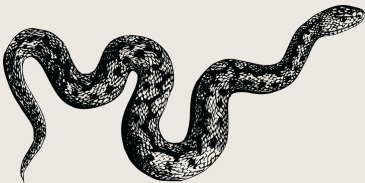
**WHAT'S
INSIDE?**



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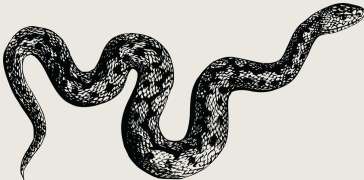
It's no doubt about it, camping season is here. And, I am totally looking forward to it because it's relaxing, fun, and offers an opportunity for family bonding and learning new skills. However, camping can also be scary. So, below I have outlined the **7 Scariest Things about Camping with Kids** from my own experience and a few ideas to help curb the scariness.



Snakes and Spiders

Snakes and spiders are out there. Period. So, the best thing that you can do is to...

A) Teach your children about snakes and spiders (especially poisonous ones) that are commonly found in your location and give them precautions and what to do if they come across any. Caution them on digging and lifting up random large rocks because snakes can be nestled under them.



Spiders and Snakes to watch for in our area include:

Poisonous Spiders and Snakes to watch for in our area include:

Read more about teaching kids about venomous snakes and don't forget to teach them about poisonous plants!

Poisonous Plants to watch for in our area include:

B) Distribute mothballs, peppermint oil, and/or chili pepper around your campsite. Any of these should offer a little peace of mind for you and the children.

Read more ideas about camping repellents as a family.

Additional ways include:

Various animals will roam at night. And, raccoons will be in anything left out and opened, especially food and trash. So, be sure to keep their activity down in your area by putting your trash high up on a tree or putting it in the garbage or car before you turn in for the night. Otherwise, you will have creatures roaming your campsite throughout the night waking you every few minutes.

I will remind myself to **bring a large nail and hammer** to hang trash bag on tree unless bears are in the area. In that case, I will not hang trash on the tree.

Water

If you are setting up your campsite near water, yes it's scary thinking about snakes in the water and geese roaming close to your site. But, what's even scarier for me is having children near such large bodies of water when they cannot swim. So, be careful with your children around the water.

Is this your "Note to Self"?

***Schedule swimming classes or refresher course for children prior to camping trip.**

Swimming Course Scheduled: Date and Time:



Night Walkers

People randomly roam at night and simply put - will scare the hell out of you. There's not much you can do about them. So, just inform your children that people sometimes roam at night but you have their back.

I have cautioned my children to do the following in this situation:

I cannot express how important having a compass and paper map of your camping area is, especially if you are new to the area. Oftentimes camping areas tend to look similar, but aren't. So, make sure you have a map and/or compass to navigate, especially on trails.

Nothing is worse than being lost for hours and your phone's GPS doesn't work because there is a lack of signal with a tired and hungry kid - all while you're frustrated.

I have reminded my children to keep calm in this situation, but to yell for help if they happen to be alone. We also have the following plan in place:

Potty Shacks

Many of these are scary-looking, dirty, stinky, and filled with mosquitos. Point blank. So, if you have to use them, especially with children, be prepared, especially at night. Make it quick. Use large flashlights. Have toilet paper ready. Spray some OFF in the air before taking down your clothes and on you afterward.

Being bit by dozens of mosquitoes on your buns is no fun for anyone, especially little ones.



The Dark

Finally, camping in the dark can be scary for anyone, especially children. Be prepared with plenty of lights. Some of our favorites are headlamps for the kids, large flashlights, string lights, and solar lamps staked throughout the campsite, as well as the fire.

In Summary



Camping can be relaxing, fun, and offer an opportunity for family bonding and learning new skills. However, it can also be scary, so take notes of 7 of our scariest encounters and things you can do to curb some of the scariness with your children.

Our Family Camping List

Don't Forget!

