



OUTDOOR CAMPING AWARD



PROJECT: SETTING UP CAMP

GOALS

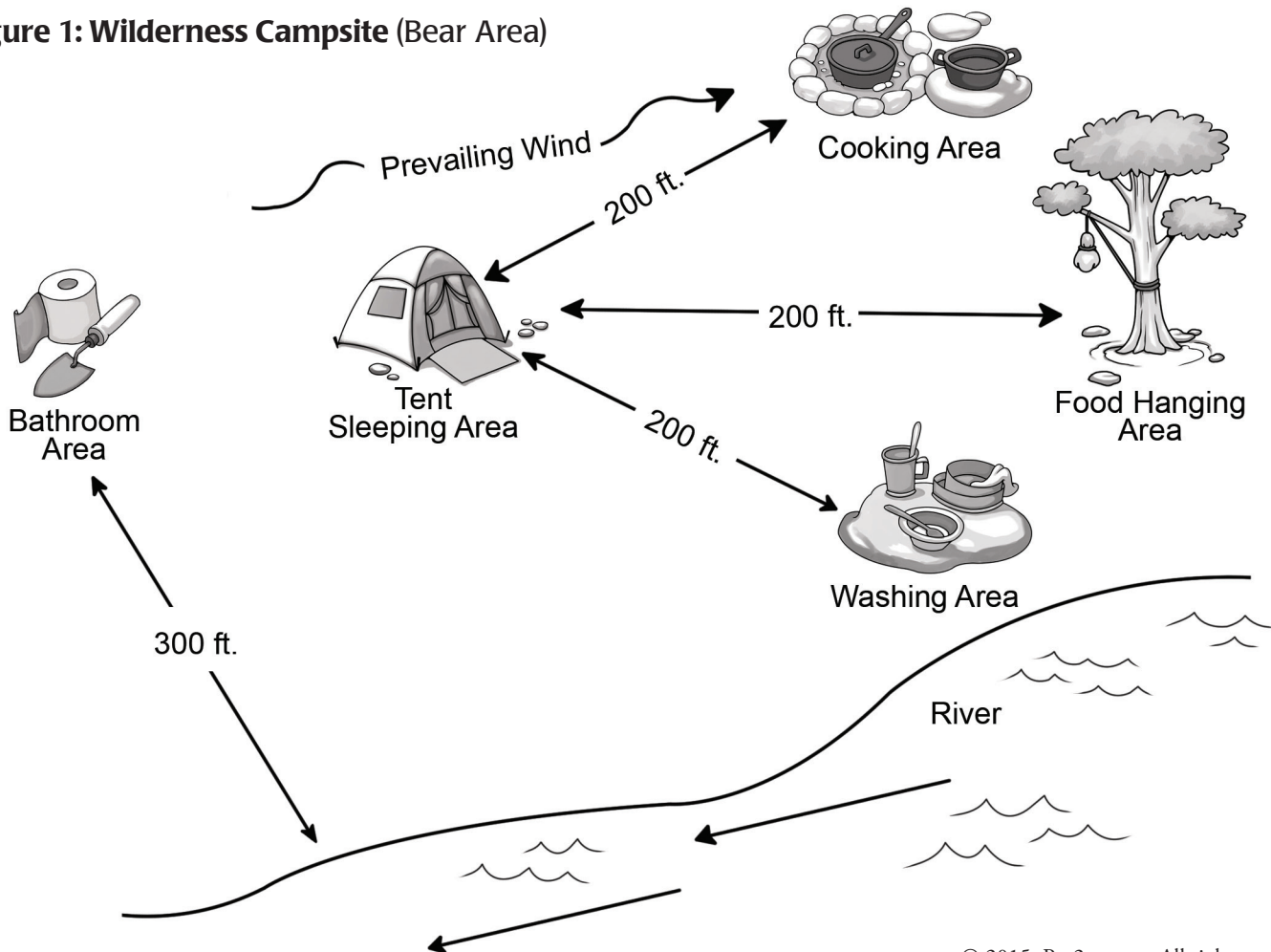
- A. CHOOSING A CAMPSITE:** Find a campsite for your camping trip
- B. CAMPSITE SETUP:** Complete the steps to setup your campsite.

A. CHOOSING A CAMPSITE

Campsite Checklist

- Protected Area:** Find a spot that is protected. Avoid mountaintops and bare hills that are exposed to wind and lightning. Find a campsite that has some natural shade from trees, preferably with hills and rocks around it that can block the wind.
- Avoid Flood Areas:** Find a campsite that is not in the lowest area, to avoid being where rainwater collects!
- Water Source Nearby:** If possible, find a location near a stream, river, or water source that you can use for cleaning.
- See the diagram below for help knowing where to place your cooking area, washing area, food storage, and tent.**

Figure 1: Wilderness Campsite (Bear Area)



B. CAMPSITE SETUP

Find a Location for Your Tent

1. Find a location in your campsite that is shaded, flat, and blocked from the wind.
2. Choose a location that is not the lowest in the area to avoid getting water in your tent.
3. Remove things from the ground where you will place your tent. Look for rocks, sticks, pinecones, and anything that will be uncomfortable to sleep on!
4. Pitch your tent! Read and follow the directions included with your tent to set it up.

TIP: Before you start setting up camp, get your flashlight or headlamp out immediately after arriving, along with rain gear, coats, and bug repellent. These items are the most likely you will need in a hurry with weather and local elements!

Find A Location for Cooking

1. Choose a location for your cooking area where smoke will blow *away* from your tent. If there is a high amount of wind, place your fire where the smoke will blow the opposite direction of your sleeping area.
2. Unload your stove and bins with cooking items. Place them at the end of the picnic table, or assemble any portable camping tables.
3. Bring out trash bags and prepare your area.
4. Create a cooking firepit area. Complete **Camping: Building a Campfire** to find out how!

Storing Food Tips:

- If you are in a bear area, store your food either in bear boxes or up a tree for the evening depending on your campsite.
- At a marked camping site, place your cooler and food in your vehicle or in a provided bear box for the evening. In a wilderness area, tie food in a tree at least 15 feet from the ground, at least 200 feet away from your sleeping area.
- If you are not in a bear area, place your food items in your vehicle for the evening.

Setup a Water Area

1. If possible, find an area to collect drinking and cleaning water. It will save you from hauling water as far!
2. Set up a dish washing area downstream from where you collect water.
3. Keep in mind, when you dump soapy water, you will need to dump it at least 300 feet way from the water source.
4. Locate where you will bathe. If you are at a marked campsite, there may be showers available. If you are in the wilderness, you can bathe in a local stream. If you are bathing in the stream, use biodegradable soap or shampoo.



Scout Out the Bathrooms

1. Find a spot several hundred feet away from your tent and cooking area. Look for areas surrounded by trees, rocks, and hills.
2. If camping near a river or stream, pick a spot that is downstream from your washing area. Also make sure it is at least 300 feet from the water source.
3. If the weather is good, you can leave a small trowel and trash bag in the area and collect that when you are finished camping.
4. Dig a hole at the beginning of your stay that is at least 10 inches deep.
5. Cover it up before you leave and burn any toilet paper used!

RESEARCH MORE

- Complete other **Camping** lessons: **Cooking Meals**, **Building a Campfire**, or **Camping Trip**.
- REI.com/learn/expert-advice/camping.html
- *Pocket Guide to the Outdoors* by Jean Craighead George
- *The Family Camping Guide: How to Survive a Camping Trip (And Have Fun doing it)* by Rashelle Davis
- *Camping* by Nancy Hundal (Instructional Fiction Story)
- *When We Go Camping* by Margriet Rurrs (Instructional Fiction Story)

*My child has successfully completed the Project Goals for the topic—**Setting Up Camp**.*

Adult Signature: _____ Date: _____

(Complete SIX projects to earn your CAMPING award)