



Meeting Invitations

Ideas and Suggestions

Handmade and hand-delivered invitations are one of the responsibilities of the host of each meeting and can be very real sources of fun, creativity and shared enthusiasm for a father and his child. Their practical purposes in the Adventure Guides program are:

- to announce the location and time of a tribe meeting
- to get dad and child together one more time, as the invitations are made and hand-delivered to each member of the tribe.

Another benefit is that these invitations help stimulate warmth and friendliness within the tribe as families open their homes to other tribal members. Each family will have two or three chances annually to make an invitation. Please remember that it is very important to draw a map to your home somewhere on the first invitation you make. Please try to avoid "electronic smoke signals" (e-mails or faxes).

There are many possibilities for interesting invitations. Ingenuity by father and child is encouraged along with the suggestion of keeping the projects simple. A variety of materials may be used, such as aluminum foil, balsawood, boxes, cans, cardboard, cork, leather, paper, pipe cleaners, plastic and rubber. At the same time natural materials, such as nuts, shells, stones and wood lend themselves to creative projects. This chapter should provide you with some ideas for invitations that carry a warmth or feeling and provide an opportunity for Both of you to contribute to the completion of your invitations.

Invitation Helpful Hints

- Choose an invitation idea that relates to nature, Native American culture or the present holiday season.
- Keep the project simple so that the task is feasible for father and child to make one invitation for each father/child team in the tribe.
- Plan thoughtfully! Father And child together allowing sufficient time for both to gain satisfaction from the project.
- Be as creative as possible. Consult additional resources for new ideas. Experiment with multiple materials. Apply ingenuity.
- Father and child together deliver invitation to each home. This does not include little brother or sister, Mother or Fido. You would be amazed at how special this "alone with Dad" time is to your child. Talk about what it means to be a host and the fun you had in making the invitations.
- Design a map giving directions to hosts' home on your first invitation. Use imagination in decorating map.





Acorn Necklace

Gather some acorns from some woods. Make a necklace of the acorns by stringing them on a heavy waxed string. Tie a tag on one end with the message on it.

Animal Pictures

Draw picture of bear, deer, mountain lion, birds or any others animals on a large piece of drawing paper. Add the date, time of meeting and names of hosts in the design.

Animal Skin

Cut a piece of scrap leather into the shape of an animal skin. Write the message on it with a pen or colored marker.

Arrow

Use a small stick or dowel for the shaft of the arrow, and cut slot in one end. Cut out an arrowhead from poster board. Print a message on it, including names, date, and time. Insert the message paper in the shaft slot. Construction paper can be added for the arrow feathers.

Arrowhead

Make an arrowhead out of cardboard, wood, paper, Styrofoam or even a rock. Add a message using colorful paints.

Bookmark

This is a good beginning project. Create an attractive bookmark out of cloth, leather or paper. Add a yarn tassel and decorate with markers or crayons.

Boomerang

Find a piece of cardboard of the desired size and cut into the shape of a boomerang. Decorate with markers or paints. Add your invitation message.

Canoe

To make a canoe, cut out a 4" x 6" section of construction paper. Fold the paper in half lengthwise. Shape the ends of the canoe round and glue the ends together. Decorate the canoe with crayons or markers. Add your invitation message.

You could also carve a canoe from a 6" piece of balsa wood. Make sure both father and son follow all safety procedures when using a knife. Use a wood-burning tool to add decoration and the invitation message.

Pony with Travois

Find a small plastic toy horse. With small strips of adhesive tape, fasten two candy lollipop sticks to the horse. Apply the tape so that it looks like a harness. Fasten a piece of paper on the travois, and write the message on it.

When all else fails, God won't.



Wooden Knife

Cut out a pretend knife out of thick cardboard. Paint the blade silver and decorate the handle with colored tape. Write your message on the blade.

Leather Leaf

Gather some large leaves to use as your sample. Place the leaf over a scrap piece of leather and trace around the outside of the leaf. Carefully cut out the leaf using scissors. (Dad may need to help cut through thick leather.) Using markers, first draw the leaf veins on your leather leaf and then color the vein side of the leaf. Write the invitation message on the side opposite side.

Log Chip

Have father saw a 4" diameter fireplace log into pieces about 1/2" thick. Write your invitation message on the face of the wood circle using markers, paints, or a wood-burning tool.

Navajo Rug

Take a piece of canvas about 3 by 5 inches; color a design similar to a Navajo rug on one side. Put your invitation message on the other side. By pulling some of the thread out of the edge, it will fray and look like a small rug. India ink works well to outline the design and write the message.

Paddle

Cut out a canoe paddle pattern out of thin balsa wood, stick, wooden shingle or cardboard. Sandpaper the rough edges. Add your invitation message to the paddle blade.

Pine Cones

Go for a hike through the woods and collect pine cones. Spray paint the cones a decorative color. Attach a ribbon and bells to the cone along with your invitation message. This is a good holiday project.

Quiver

Make a tube container from a juice can or paper roll. Decorate the outside with yarn, material, markers, or paint. Attach a string carrier to the top and bottom. Fasten message to the end of the arrow made with a small stick.

Scroll

Make a scroll out of thick paper. Write your message on the paper using crayons or markers. Find two sticks about 6" inches long and 3/4" in diameter. Glue or tape the sticks to the ends of the paper scroll. You can decorate the four stick ends with yarn.

The word "listen" contains the same letters as the word "silent".



Snowman

Using three Styrofoam balls of different sizes, connect your snowman's body together by first connecting the big ball with the medium ball with a toothpick. Remove the toothpick and squirt white glue in the toothpick holes. Reinsert the toothpick in the hole on the big ball. Add some glue around the toothpick on the top of the big ball and into the toothpick hole on the medium ball. Place the other end of the toothpick into the medium ball. Your big and medium balls should be connected. Repeat with the medium and small ball. Draw on eyes using markers or by gluing on small rocks. Use small sticks for arms. Design a hat and scarf with felt. Attach your message to the snowman.



Tepee

Create small tepee using colored construction paper, or a small cone-shaped drinking cup. Glue tepee to piece of cardboard base 4" x 6". Decorate your cardboard base with crayons or markers. Write your message on cardboard.

Tomahawk

Create a tomahawk shape out of thick cardboard or poster board. Decorate with crayons or markers. Write your message on the handle.



Be convinced that you must train not only the head, but the heart and hand as well.