

Messed Up Fairy Tale Camp (for Guides, but can be adapted to other branches)

This was a fun camp that allowed us a lot of flexibility with the badges and program work we wanted to work on.

We decided to work on Ecology and Folklore. The girls also learned to be responsible for their own gear and money, as well, they created a beautiful book for the Sparks in our District about being a friend.

7:00 - Arrive at camp

Check in with First Aider and sign into camp. Receive patrol tag, bed tag (made of glow in the dark fun foam and shaped like glass slippers). After they had selected their bunks they could begin their first craft (a purse made of felt) which was laid out for them to work on once they got there. They sewed up the sides and put on a button.

7:30 - rules, and first story: **Robina Hood** - To teach the girls to be responsible for their belongings and also to teach about the value of a job well done, we purchased gold coins from the dollar store. Girls could earn coins for doing good deeds without being asked to, completing their camp duties and keeping their bunks tidy. If one of the girls opted not to do her duties (only happened once all weekend) she would have to pay for maid service to the other girls in her patrol. This kept the girls from leaving one person to do all the work. Also if she left her bunk in a mess, she had to pay maid service for the cleanup. The bunks were spotless in the morning. Most of the girls ended up with about the same amount of money in the end, but a few had some extra because they went above and beyond a few times to help out a fellow guide or by helping a guider without being asked.

We took the basic Robin Hood story and twisted around to become Robina Hood. Here's the basic run down: Robina Hood doesn't like the evil Queen who takes everyone's money so she can build herself a new pool and hot tub. Robina Hood got annoyed and stole back the money from the Queen and gave it to the poor. But after awhile she noticed that the town was getting mighty dirty since no one felt they needed to work for their money anymore. So Robina used some advice from her Mommy and gave money to the people only if they did their work, just like an allowance. And after that, the town returned to normal with people still doing their work and the town functioning normally.

After the story, we did a walk around of the campsite, naming each area after a Fairy Tale. This was followed by a quick wide game to run off some energy, a campfire (where some of the girls completed their Campfire Leading Badge), a snack and then a meditation to wind down. The meditation was to complete the healthy living challenge.

Meditation story -**Hansel & Gretel** are health nuts in this story and can't believe someone is tossing out candy that some little kids might eat. So they pick it up so they can get rid of it and when they get to the end of the trail they find the witch who lives in the candy house. Well as you can imagine, she's pretty wired with all that candy so Gretel suggests to her that she should try to calm down with some Yoga. The witch is doubtful but gives it a try and in no time she is feeling much more relaxed.

Saturday - after breakfast and chores, we started on the ecology badge by walking down to the brook and playing a few games.

Each girl brought a 2L pop bottle to make her eco system. **Jack and The Flower-stalk Eco System** - Jack is happy living in his little house. One day while he is outside, two great big seeds drop down on his head. He couldn't believe it, where could they have come from. Jack had heard about the giant that lived in the sky but he didn't believe it until then. Everyday Jack would sit and watch the sky for more seeds, then he realized that the ones that had dropped down on him were growing. They grew higher and higher each day and Jack decided to climb them one day to see where they went. When he reached the top he looked up and screamed. He was trapped inside a plastic bottle and there was a giant on the other side of the plastic looking down at him. He was trapped inside an Eco-system



Next the girls worked on their story book for the Sparks. The girls worked in groups of two designing the pages. We bought a kit from a local craft store, made some extra pictures of the princess and dragon for the girls to use and let their imaginations do the rest. It was a great success and the girls were very proud of their storybook. While they worked on the book, we also discussed other parts of the Folklore badge.

Later the girls put together skits for a show that evening.

We finished the Folklore badge at campfire with some folk songs, and had the girls make up their own story. We also told a native legend during campfire.

We wound down the night by letting them watch a movie "Happily Never After 2"

While I have only included brief notes on the stories we created, I can provide them for anyone who doesn't feel comfortable making up their own story. The sky's the limit with stories and badges. Any badge can have a twisted fairy tale to go with it. Humour is often the best thing to use if you're not very comfortable with writing your own stories. The kids had a blast listening to the stories and making up their own stories.

