

# Family Camping Checklist

By Sherry M. Lewis

- Planning the Trip
  - Make sure you have all the right equipment.
  - Research campsite options before you go away.
  - If you think you'll go camping on a frequent basis it might be worth considering joining the camping association.
  - Get some camping books on how to do camp in style.
  - When booking a campsite, check whether or not your pitch is likely to be near the entertainments bit.
  - Pick a campsite where there is room for your children to roam safely and that allows you to relax.
  - Write down the menu for all meals for your trip.
  - Prepare meals that can be cooked at home ahead of time and travel in a cooler.
  - Plan to arrive at your campsite early so you have plenty of time to set up.
  - Organise the tent as much as possible and try to only bring what you need.
- Equipment
  - Tent - make sure you allow adequate space for everyone the tent will need to accommodate.
  - Make sure your car will be able to accommodate the tent.
  - Be sure that you'll have enough room for all the paraphernalia you'll need to take with you.
  - Consider warmth, material used, design, shape and weight when choosing your sleeping bags.
  - Bring sleeping mats to provide insulation underneath you.
  - Pillows/blankets - for added comfort and warmth.
  - Pump - for blowing up air-beds or inflatable mattresses.
  - Lamps - for some light in the tent.
  - Fold-up chairs - for tent-bound evenings if it rains.
  - Plenty of warm, waterproof clothing - even in the summer.
  - Small camping stove to cook up a warming meal for the family.
  - Gas for the stove.

- Pans/can opener/corkscrew - and of course other eating and drinking implements.
- Comprehensive cutlery and crockery.
- Washing-up liquid and sponge.
- Plenty of toilet roll.
- Antiseptic wet wipes.
- Sun lotion and sun hats.
- First aid kit.
- In-tent entertainment.
- Map of the region.