Pack For An Expedition

Imagine you are going on an expedition. Pack a backpack to take with you!

For thousands of years, people have explored the world around them. Whether they are climbing mountains or diving in the ocean, they must carry supplies to help them survive in different environments.



Materials Needed:

Backpack and items printables (or draw your own), construction paper, crayons or colored pencils, scissors, stapler. *Optional:* Printable Challenge Cards.

Instructions:

Step 1: Imagine you are going on an expedition. Will you climb a mountain, trek through the rainforest, dive to the bottom of the ocean, journey to the North Pole, or somewhere else? Think about what items you'll need on your expedition.

Step 2: Color and cut out a backpack.

Step 3: Cut out a piece of construction paper in the same shape as the backpack. Staple the papers together on the sides and bottom. Make sure to leave the top open!

Step 4: Choose which items to pack for your expedition. Color and cut them out. Use blank paper to draw other items!

Step 5: Put your items in the backpack!



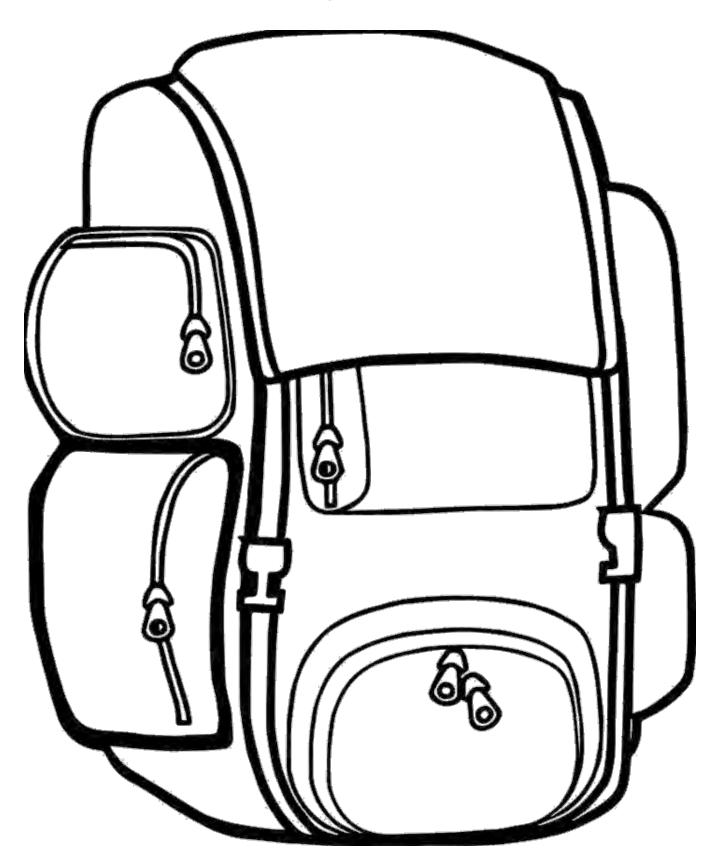
Extensions:



- Choose a challenge card. Read the scenario and pack a backpack that meets the conditions. Try another challenge, or write your own!
- Go on a scavenger hunt around your home. Find items you would take on an expedition. Try to fit them into a real backpack!

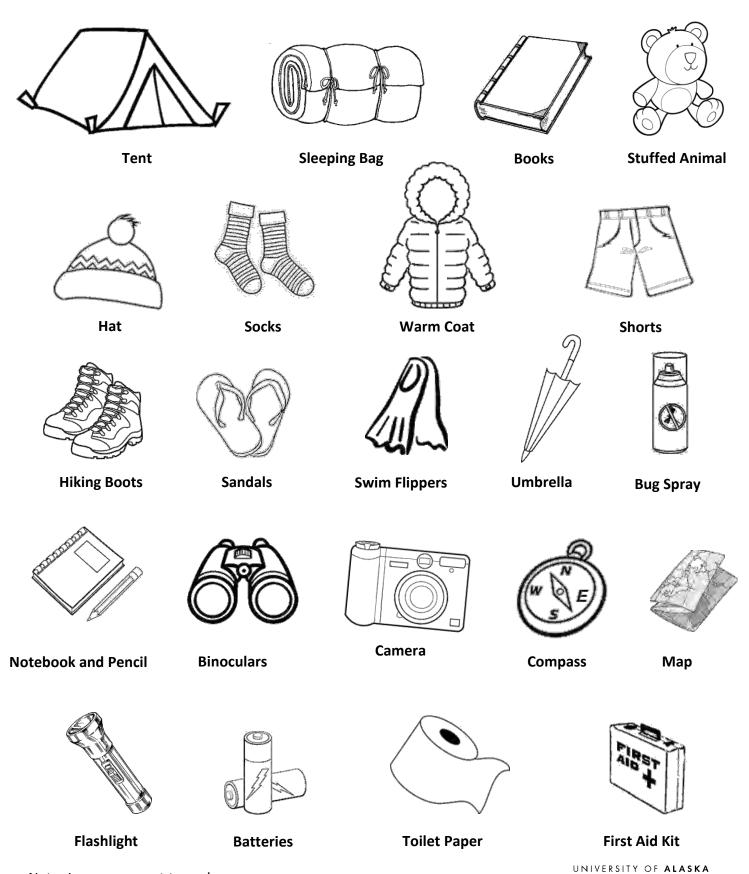


Pack For An Expedition Printables





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Note: Images are not to scale.

Pack For An Expedition: Challenge Cards

Challenge 1:

You are going on a mountain climbing expedition. Space is very limited, so you can only choose **ten items** to take in your backpack.

Challenge 2:

You are going on a trip around the world. You will be visiting many different regions, so you must pack items to survive in **different climates**.

Challenge 3:

You are going to a city you have never visited before. You will be walking around the city, so you need to keep your backpack as light as possible.

Challenge 4:

You are an astronaut on a mission to explore Mars. Space travel takes a long time, so you must pack enough supplies to last for **two years**.

Challenge 5:

The year is 1900, and you are on an expedition to reach the North Pole. You can only pack items that would have been **easily** available in 1900.

Challenge 6:

Write your own challenge!







Exploring Our World



Humans are Explorers

Since the beginning of time, humans have explored the world. Our curiosity and observations have helped us survive in different environments around the world. Exploration helps us adapt to new situations. We continue to learn about the places that surround us.

Places and Things to Explore

There are many ways to explore! People have tackled extreme adventures such as reaching the Earth's poles, exploring the deep oceans, trekking to mountaintops, and even traveling to space! Archaeologists and earth scientists explore underground clues to Earth's history. Some biologists explore the tiny molecules that make up our bodies. Most of what we know about ourselves and our world today comes from our explorations.



Icebreaker ship Polar Stern on a research trip to study climate change.

Image: NASA.

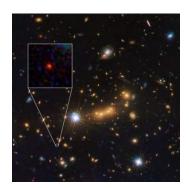


Tools for Exploration

We explore with our five sense. They give us a lot of information: color, texture, smell, taste, etc. We also use tools to explore because our senses are limited. For example, our eyes cannot see things that are too small or too far away. Magnifying glasses and microscopes help us see small things, while telescopes and binoculars help us see things that are far away. Tools allow us to make detailed observations and explore further.

Exploring Beyond the Limits

Many places are difficult for humans to explore; they are too far away, too small, or too extreme for people to survive. But we have invented new ways to explore beyond those limits. Our explorations of space go deeper and deeper into the universe. The Hubble Space Telescope helped us find the oldest galaxy ever observed, over 13 billion light years away! Today, the Parker Solar Probe is travelling closer to the Sun than ever before. Humans truly test the limits of exploration under extreme conditions.



The Hubble Space Telescope spots a candidate for the most distant galaxy ever observed.

Image: NASA.

