

# Pack for a Mountain Climbing Expedition

Imagine you are going to climb a mountain. Pack your supplies!

**Materials:** Backpack Template, Mountain Climbing Expedition Cards (or draw your own), colored pencils, construction paper, scissors, stapler.

## Instructions:

**Step 1:** Imagine you are going to climb a mountain. What supplies and equipment will you need to take with you? Consider the weather, how much weight you can carry, and the amount of food, water, and safety equipment you will need.



**Step 2:** Color and cut out the backpack template.

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



**Step 4:** Look at the Mountain Climbing Expedition Cards. Choose which items to pack for your expedition, and cut them out. Use blank paper to draw other items.



**Step 5:** Put your items in the backpack!

## Extensions:

Work with a friend to plan a group expedition. Decide which items you can share, and how to divide the supplies so you each carry an equal amount.

Imagine you are climbing a mountain a hundred years ago. Which items would have been available then? How would your equipment be different or similar to today?



# Climbing Denali



Wikimedia Commons.

People around the world have climbed mountains for thousands of years, and for a variety of reasons, including traveling to new areas, exploration, scientific study, and fun. Denali, the highest mountain in North America, is a popular destination for many mountain climbers today.

The area around Denali is home to the Dené people, and the mountain is an important part of their cultures. The name Denali is used by the Koyukon Athabaskan people, who live north of the mountain, and means “the high one” or “the tall”.

The first recorded attempt to summit Denali was made in 1903, but was not successful. In 1910, the Sourdough Expedition set out to be the first to climb to the top. Despite having limited equipment and little climbing experience, they reached Denali's north peak.



Right: Charlie McGonagall and Tom Lloyd during the 1910 Sourdough Expedition. *Image: Alaska State Library, ASL-P277-004-089.*



Tatum, Esaias, Karstens, Johnny and Walter, at the Clearwater Camp.

1913 expedition members. *Image: The Ascent of Denali (Mount McKinley) by Hudson Stuck.*

On June 7, 1913, the Karsten-Stuck Expedition reached the 20,310 feet summit of Denali, despite numerous setbacks, including a fire that destroyed much of their equipment. The first person to reach the top was Walter Harper (the team's 20-year-old Koyukon Athabaskan guide) followed by Harry Karstens, Robert Tatum, and Hudson Stuck.

Since 1913, over 32,000 people have tried to climb Denali, with about 18,000 of them succeeding. In 1947, Barbara Washburn became the first woman to reach the summit. In 1951, her husband Bradford Washburn was the first to use the West Buttress route.

Mountain climbing can be very dangerous. Climbers spend months or years selecting equipment. Space is limited, and everything must be carried or pulled on sleds. Knowing how to cope with avalanches, icefalls, and bad weather is crucial.

Despite the hazards, Denali's soaring peak continues to capture people's imaginations and attract climbers from all over the world.

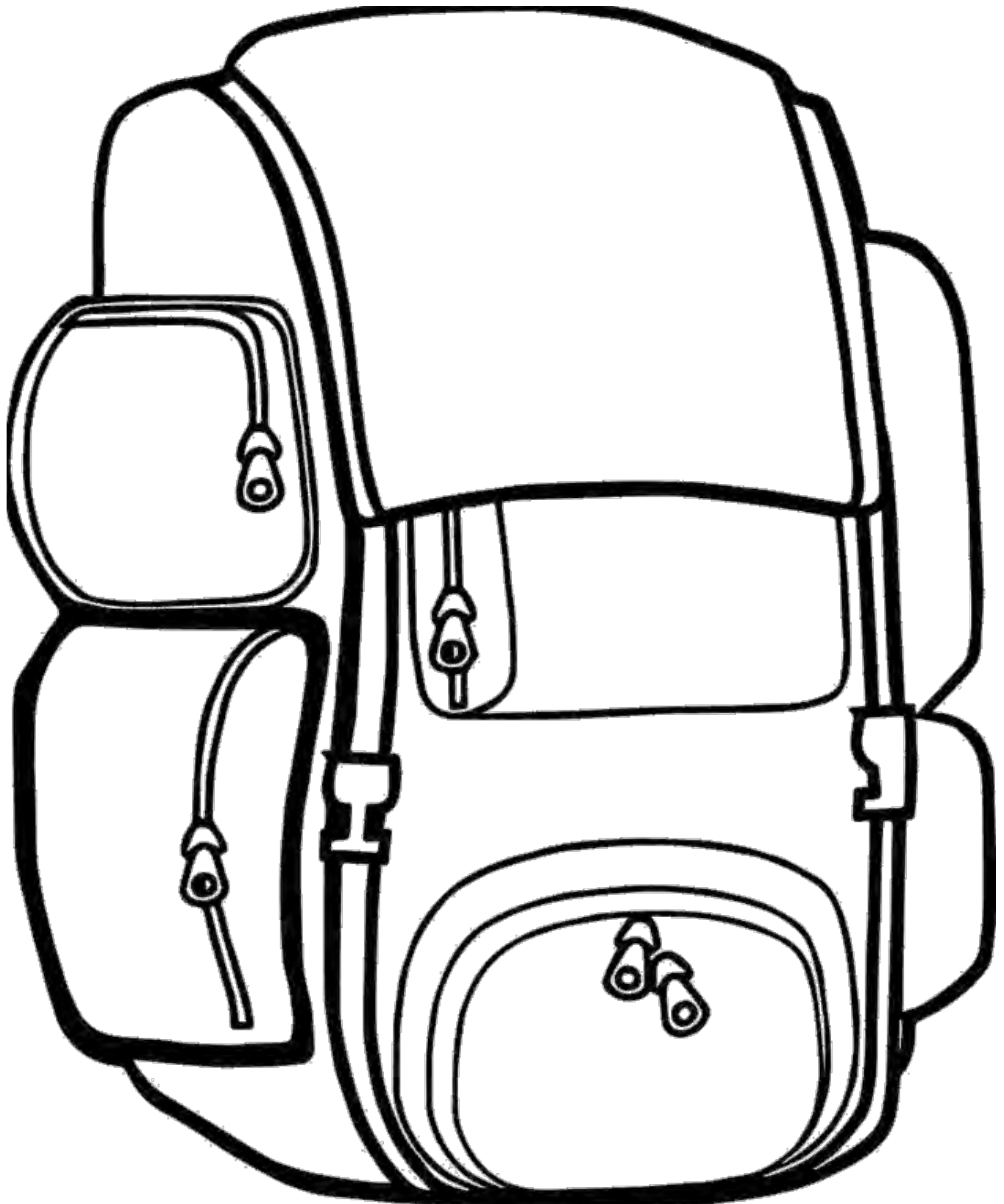


NPS Photo/Reichert.

**Learn more about the history of climbing Denali:**

[uaf.edu/museum/education/educators/teaching-through-collecti/](http://uaf.edu/museum/education/educators/teaching-through-collecti/)

# Backpack Template



## Mountain Climbing Expedition Cards



**Skis**  
8 pounds



**Snowshoes**  
4.5 pounds



**Shovel**  
1 pound



**Duct Tape**  
1 pound



**Tent**  
6.5 pounds



**Sleeping Bag**  
3.5 pounds



**Boots**  
5 pounds for pair



**Parka**  
3 pounds



**Mittens**  
1 pound for pair



**Goggles**  
0.5 pounds



**First Aid Kit**  
1 pound



**Sewing Kit**  
0.25 pounds

# Mountain Climbing Expedition Cards



**Camera**  
1 pound



**Stove**  
1.25 pounds



**Rope**  
6.5 pounds



**Crampons**  
2 pounds for pair



**Ice Ax**  
1 pound



**Satellite Phone**  
0.5 pounds



**Radio**  
0.75 pounds



**Notebook**  
0.5 pounds



**Food**  
At least 2 pounds  
per day



**Cooking Pot**  
0.5 pounds



**Water Purification  
Tablets: 0.25 pounds**



**Draw Your Own!**