

S.W.A.P.S.

Special Whatchamacallits Affectionally Pinned Somewhere

"Shared With A Pal"

What to make?

S.W.A.P.S. are small homemade items that campers and leaders trade with each other. They usually tell something about the person who made it or reflects the theme of the camp. They may make them all the same, or make every one different. They are usually only an inch or two in size, attached with a safety pin. Traditionally they are pinned on a hat, vest or shirt. They can be simple or complex, it is not necessary to spend a lot of money. Many people make them out of beads, felt, fun foam, chenille pipe cleaners, ribbons, fabric scraps, small sticks, let imaginations go wild. S.W.A.P.S. should be made at home before the event. It is a good idea to put your first name and date on the S.W.A.P.S. or attach a tag.

GOOGLE **SWAPS** FOR IDEAS!

How many?

There is no set number, but 25 per camper is a good number to aim for. Some will make a lot more. Some may choose not to participate.

What to do with them?

On the day of an event, everyone will come with their S.W.A.P.S. and mingle with the group, trading S.W.A.P.S. Leaders may want to come prepared with their own and a few extra S.W.A.P.S. for those who may have left their S.W.A.P.S. at home. We suggest they bring a baggie with their name / unit on it to put their newly acquired S.W.A.P.S. in.

Why swap?

S.W.A.P.S. are made and given to promote friendship, to make new friends. Swapping allows us to bring back a memento of a special occasion.

S.W.A.P.S. Etiquette

- ALWAYS say thank you! A Girl Scout is courteous.
- Never give a swap away that someone gave you.
- Swaps should be hand made.
- It is considered rude if you refuse to swap with someone who asks you.
- If you don't like their SWAP, or already have an identical one, accept it politely.
- It is nice to give someone a S.W.A.P. who doesn't have one to give you in return.
- Do not use food items as S.W.A.P.S., including gum, candy, and peanuts. Many campers have allergies, and these kinds of S.W.A.P.S. attract bugs at camp.
- Make sure items are colorfast, the pin is secure and the item can hold up to handling, weather, and transport. Paper swaps can be covered with clear contact paper.
- Remember to have FUN in swapping!! The campers can learn a lot about sharing and take home a nice memory.