

Safety precautions and a clear operating procedure for use of Kelly kettles

The Kelly Kettle is very commonly used in forest school activities to boil water for hot drinks or for washing up. There is however risks involved when using hot equipment and boiling water therefore leader must always demonstrate safe practice and safety precautions will be in place.



How it is used:

- Ensure you are on a level non flammable surface.
- Create you safety circle, ensure there is plenty of distance between working groups.
- Make your fire in the base compartment using your tinder, kindling and small pieces of fuel.
- Prepare your kettle, pour water in to the top section be careful not to fill to close to the top as this will spill out when it hits boiling point.
- Put the green cork in making sure the arrow is facing downwards. Do not place the cork in the Kelly kettle when being heated.
- Once your fire is burning – then safely with protective heat proof gloves if needed lift the kettle on to the base.
- Make sure the base is enclosed; the air hole should be on the opposite side to the spout.
- Feed the fuel by dropping sticks through the chimney hole in the middle. Keep your arms away from the spout to avoid getting splashed with boiling water or steam.
- Once the kettle hits boiling point it will make a whistling sound you may see the water starting to spill out of the cork.
- Wearing the heat proof gloves take the handle and carefully remove the top part of the Kelly Kettle placing it down on a level surface within your safety area.
- Kelly kettles are heavy especially when full of water. They should only be removed with adult supervision.
- Once you have poured your water as required place your kettle in a safe designated place.
- You can use the flames if still burning in the base for cooking marshmallows.
- Once you have finished with all equipment each section once cooled must be disposed of with care.
- Remaining water can be used for cleaning. Do not use if water is boiling.
- The embers in the based must be cooled ensuring the fire is completely out before disposal. Scatter embers around the area, within the bushes and leave the site area tidy.
- Once all parts of the Kelly kettle are cooled and cleaned you can put it away in the allocated bag.