

Grant's Scouting Songbook - Yells, Cheers and Skits



Who hath smelt woodsmoke at twilight?
Who hath heard the birch log burning?
Who is quick to read the noises of the
night?
Let him follow with the others.
For the young men's feet are turning,
To the camps of proved desire and known
delight.

Rudyard Kipling



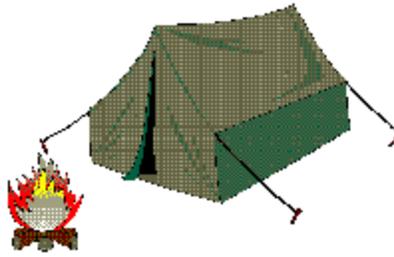
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If you have a favourite skit or yell that I have not included here, please [send me the details](#) so that I can add it.

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Cheers, Yells, and Applauses	An alphabetical list of campfire cheers, yells and applauses.
Run Ons and Short Skits	A collection of "run ons" or short skits that can be used as fillers in campfires or in many other occasions.
Longer Skits	The Enlarging Machine The Submarine Is It Time Yet? Yapoocha The Lawnmower



Cheers, Yells, and Applauses

Artillery:	Begin slowly with the flats of your palms and increase in speed: then slow down until finally the last time the hands are not brought together.
Big Hand:	Leader says, "let's give them a big hand" everybody in the audience holds up one of their hands with the palm up.
Big Sneeze:	Cup hands in front of nose and sneeze in hands. Having nowhere to put it, wipe your hands in your hair.
Blast-off:	Start counting backwards from 6 to 1. Bend the knees a little more on each count until you are in a squatting position. Then, while saying, "BLAST OFF!", jump straight up in the air.
Bravo:	Spell out the letters B R A V O O O Then yell together BRAVO When given as a cheer, it is traditional for the people being cheered to reply in the same way, and try to be louder than the group who cheered them.
Can of Applause:	Cheer and applaud as cover is removed from can and become quiet as lid is replaced.
Canary Applause (2000 lb):	Put hands on opposite shoulders, while opening and closing elbows, say, "Here, kitty, kitty."
Carpenter:	Pretend to be holding a hammer in one hand and a nail in the other. Start pounding the nail with the hammer while saying, "Bang, Bang, Ouch".
Cherry:	Pick a cherry, roll in your mouth, then spit the pit out with a loud "P-TUU."
Chinese:	How! How! How! Phooey, Phooey, Phooey.
Chinese Bow:	Stand, fold your arms, bow from the waist while saying, "Ah Phooey."
Christmas Bells:	Pretend to hold a bell rope, then get the left side of the audience to say "DING" on the downstroke and the other side of the audience to say "DONG" on the upstroke. Repeat three times.
Class A:	Clap rapidly in the following rhythm: 1-2-3-4, 1-2, 1-2, 1-2-3-4, 1-2, 1-2, 1-2-3-4...(pause)..One big clap.

Class B:	Just like the Class A except that on the last clap, you come back with your hands and make one big clap.
Class C:	Just like the class B except that after missing the clap, you come back with your hands and make one big clap.
Coo Coo:	Everyone nod their heads up and down and say: "COO-COO" as many times as you tell them, as if you were striking the hour.
Cookie Clap:	Everyone takes a big bowl in their arms. In bowl, dump ingredients to make cookies, such as: flour, sugar, salt, chocolate chips and dill pickles (have the boys tell out the ingredients and you'll get some odd cookies). After the ingredients are in the bowl, you take a big spoon and with stirring motion yell "Crummy, Crummy, Crummy".
Cub Cheer:	Call out in unison ONE TWO THREE WOOF When given as a cheer, it is traditional for the people being cheered to reply in the same way, and try to be louder than the group who cheered them.
Eskimo Cheer:	Brrrrr-rrr, Brrrrr-rrr.
Fire Engine:	Divide the group into four sections: (1) Rings the bell fast, DING; (2) Honks the horn, HONK, HONK, HONK; (3) Sounds the siren, Rrrr, Rrrr, Rrrr; (4) Clangs the clanger, CLANG, CLANG, CLANG. Have all four groups do their parts together.
Fireman Yell:	Water, Water, Water! More, More, More!
Giant Beehive:	Tell the group to buzz like a bee. When your hand is raised, the volume should increase. When you lower your hand the volume should decrease. Practice this at various levels.
Good Turn:	Stand up and turn around.
Grand:	Everyone is sitting down in their chairs. All stomp their feet three times loudly, then slap leg three times, then clap hands 3 times. Then stand up all together and shout "Ra, Ra, Ra!"
Handkerchief:	Tell the group that they are supposed to applaud as long as the handkerchief you are about to throw in the air, when it hits the floor to stop applauding. Variation: Catch the handkerchief instead of letting it drop. Vary the applauding by using short throws, long throws, throwing to someone in the audience etc.
Hay DD Straw:	Divide the group into two sections, tell one group that when you point to them they are to yell, "HAY". Tell the other section they are to yell, "STRAW" !!! Vary the speed in which you point to the different groups. Variation: When the leader yells hay or straw, the group responds with the opposite word.
Rainstorm Cheer:	To simulate rain, have everyone pat one finger of the left hand and one finger of the right hand. Gradually increase the intensity of the storm by increasing the fingers hitting together. Decrease the number of fingers as the storm passes.

Relay:	First person in row claps next person's hand and so on down to the end of the row.
Reverse Applause:	Move hands away from each other.
Round of Applause:	While clapping hands, move them around in a circle in front of you.
Seal of Approval:	Put your thumbs in your armpits, then move arms up and down like a seal moving its flippers and say "Arf, Arf, Arf" several times. Variation: Pretend you are balancing a ball on the end of your nose.
Seal:	Extend arms, cross hands at the wrist and flap hands several times.
Sky Rocket:	Make a motion of striking a match on your pants, lean over to light your rocket. Make a "SH, SH, SH" sound, point from the floor to the sky as if you were following it in flight with your finger. CLAP hands and say "BOOM" spread arms wide and say "AH___AH___AH".
Tonto:	Leader says "Where does Tonto take his trash?" The audience yells in reply, "To de dump, to de dump, to de dump dump dump," to the rhythm of a running horse in a sing-song manner while clapping hands on thighs. (Like Lone Ranger)
Two-Handed Saw:	Everyone pairs off into two's. Each pair sticks their hands out with their thumbs up. Alternately grab each other's thumbs until all four hands are each holding a thumb. Move arms and hands back and forth as if sawing.
Watermelon:	Hold a piece of watermelon in both hands, make the motions of taking several bites, turn head and spit out the seeds.



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Run Ons and Short Skits

1	The first person calls from out of sight "Hey Fred, look! I'm in the top of a 100 foot tall tree." The second person: "But Joe, we don't have any 100 foot tall trees in camp. First person: "Oh noooo....", screams as he is falling.
2	1st person: "Excuse me, but is that the sun or the moon?" 2nd person: "I don't know. I'm new to these parts too."
3	Two boys playing quick draw: 1st boy: "My Scoutmaster (Cubmaster etc.) can shoot a gun faster than any man in the West." 2nd boy: "Really?" What do they call your Scoutmaster." 1st boy: "Toeless Joe."

4	<p>1st boy: "I heard you had an accident on your hike today." 2nd boy: "No but I did get bitten by a rattlesnake." 1st boy: "You don't call that an accident?" 2nd boy: "Heck no, he did that on purpose."</p>
5	<p>DRAG: Have two boys drag a third boy across the stage. The third boy says: "What a drag!"</p>
6	<p>Big Chief: Bring in 10 scalps, kill 5 buffalo bare handed and go into desert without water for a moon. Then I will pronounce you Big Brave. You understand? Indian Brave: Yes. What do I do to get pronounced Little Brave.</p>
7	<p>A boy walks across stage carrying a car door. He is asked why he is carrying the car door. The boy answers so that he can roll down the window when it gets hot.</p>
8	<p>The scene is a courtroom scene with one person as the judge. A person walks through the court carrying a sign or a skunk stuffed animal. The judge watching says: "Odor in the court! Odor in the court!"</p>
9	<p>The three boys are in a line facing the audience. Second Boy in Line: This story begins with "Once upon a time" First Boy: Hey, wait a minute, I'm the beginning. Middle Boy: I'm the middle. Last Boy: That's nothing I'm the end.</p>
10	<p>A boy is sitting on the bake with a fishing pole in hand. There is a NO FISHING sign nearby. The game warden appears. Fisherman: Are you the game warden. Game warden: Yep! Fisherman: Just teaching him how to swim (pointing to the worm on the pole)</p>
11	<p>(Boy runs on interrupting leader): "We interrupt this program for an important news flash." Turns flashlight on and off, shining it in the audience's eyes. Most effective at a campfire.</p>
12	<p>1st Scout: Say wasn't there a rap at the door? 2nd Scout: I didn't hear anything. 1st Scout: Yes, I'm sure there was a rap at the door! 2nd Scout: I'm sure I didn't hear anything. The first scout then goes to the door and brings in a coat and tells the audience as he holds it up for them to see. "I knew there was a wrap at the door."</p>
13	<p>1st Scout: I went fishing last week. 2nd Scout: What did you catch? 1st Scout: Three bass and one smelt. 2nd Scout: It did? Which one?</p>
14	<p>A group of boys are discussing a football game. 1st boy: I sure hope that the _____ wins. 2nd boy: Well I'm sure that _____ will win. 3rd boy: Why _____ will beat them 40 to nuthin'. 4th boy: I can tell you the score of the game before it starts. The Others: Oh Yeah? You're not that smart. 4th boy: Nuttin' to Nuttin' of course (The others chase him off.)</p>

15	<p>First Scout: I bet I can jump higher than a house. Second Scout: I bet you can't. First Scout: Yes I can. Did you ever see a house jump.</p>
16	<p>Leader: I can make everyone in the audience into an old fashioned Indian. Audience: How? Leader: (Leader raises right hand and then says, "How!")</p>
17	<p>Someone walks on pulling a rope. The leader asks "What are you pulling that rope for?" He answers, "Did you ever try to push one?"</p>
18	<p>Wire for Mr. Jones. I'm Mr. Jones. The clerk hands him a piece of wire.</p>
19	<p>Two guys talking, first asks the second where he is going; second says fishing. First asks second what he has in his mouth and the second says worms - he keeps them warm that way. The first guy says good luck and slaps second guy on the back.</p>
20	<p>Radio Announcer: We interrupt this program for a spot announcement. Dog (offstage): Arf! Arf! Arf! Announcer: Thank you, Spot.</p>
21	<p>Scout 1:(running on stage) "They're after me!" Scout 2: "Who's after you." Scout 3: "The squirrels! They think I'm nuts!"</p>
22	<p>Librarian: "Please be quiet, young man. The people near you can't even read." Scout: "Then what are they doing in a library?"</p>
23	<p>Scout 1: "Did you hear how my mother strained herself." Scout 2: "No, how did she manage to do it?" Scout 3: "She ran through a screen door."</p>
24	<p>Fortune Teller: "That will be \$20 for two questions." Client: "Isn't that a lot of money for two questions?" Fortune Teller: "Yes, it is. Now what is your second question?"</p>
25	<p>Scene: One person lying on the ground, dead. Another sees him and runs for the telephone and, panicking, gasps: "Police, there's a dead person here... Where ? Uh, (looking for a sign), "I'm at Montgomery and Westchester... Spell it?... Uh, M-o-t-n... Uh, M-o-t-g,," (confused), "Just a minute, I'll drag him over to King and Elm!"</p>
26	<p>Bonfire: A leader begins to explain how to lay a campfire. The leader decides to use members of the audience to represent different pieces of wood. The bonfire builders bring up various volunteers. Some of the volunteers are bunched in the centre for tinder with others placed for kindling with the "big" logs stacked on top of each other in increasing larger sizes. The leader then says that the fire is ready to light, strikes a match, whereupon, several accomplices yell out that its ON FIRE and dash several buckets of water on the "fire". If you don't want to actually get people wet (cold night or whatever) a good effect can be obtained by throwing a bucket full of leaves; they'll still think it's water and act accordingly until the leaves hit them.</p>

27	Two "cavemen" sitting facing each other cross-legged 1: "Ugh" 2: "Ugh" 1: "Ugh" 2: "Ugh" 1: "Ugh" 2: "Ugh" 1: "Ugh" 2: "Ugh Ugh" 1: (Stands up and shouts) "Why you change subject?!"
28	Water, Water: Over to one side is a glass of water. One by one people approach the glass from the other side, crawling on hands and knees and saying "water....water..." as though they are in a desert. Each gets a little closer to the glass before he collapses dead. When the last person reaches the glass, he pulls a toothbrush out of his pocket, dips it in the glass and begins brushing his teeth.
29	The Gun Family: Several people walk on in a line and announce "We're the Gun family. Watch us go off!" Then they walk off again.



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Longer Skits

The Enlarging Machine

A person plays the role of a great inventor who has created an enlarging machine. The "machine" could be a large box with somebody inside, or else a blanket or something similar held up with a person out of sight behind it. The inventor expounds at length about what a wonderful invention his machine is, and demonstrates by enlarging several objects. Some examples may be a pebble dropped in and a large rock flies back out, a small twig and a large piece of wood, a face flannel and a towel. Just use your imagination.

There are two main variations for the punchline.

1) A heckler says he thinks the machine is rubbish, and says "This is what I think of your machine" as he spits into it - he then gets drenched by a bucket of water. A variation is to have someone standing beside the machine "accidentally" spill a drink and have the bucket of water thrown back out...

2) A "mother" with a "baby" (doll) is looking at the machine and the baby falls in. She gets chased off by an adult dressed as a baby and calling out "Mummy..."

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The Submarine

You have a "captain" and several other "crew members" in a straight single file line.

The one in the back says "Captain enemy vessel spotted"; this is repeated by each person in order till the captain is told. Then the captain says "fire a torpedo" this is repeated back to the last guy who says "How you do that?" which is repeated up to the captain who says "press blue button" and that is repeated back and then the last guy acts like he pushes a button and waits a few seconds and says "darn, we missed" which of course is repeated back up to the captain.

This pattern is repeated completely about 3 times using different color buttons. The final one goes something like this:

"Captain enemy ship heading towards us and we are out of torpedoes" which of course is repeated up to the captain. The captain then says "Commit ritual suicide" and proceeds to stab himself and this saying plus the stabbing goes back down the line till the last guy who says "How you do that?"

(There are those who would associate this submarine crew with being Japanese, but in these politically correct times we cannot make such assumptions...)

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Is It time Yet?

A number of people are sitting in a row, right leg crossed over left and reading newspapers. The person at the end asks the person next to him "Is it time yet?". The person asked turns to the person on their other side and asks the same question, and the question gets passed from person to person along the line until it reaches the other end. The person at the end looks at their watch, says "Not yet" and it gets passed back along the line.

Everyone sits reading for a while longer, then the first person asks again "Is it time yet?". Once again the message is passed along the line, and the reply is again "Not yet".

After another wait the question is asked again. This time the person at the other end looks at their watch and says "Yes, it's time." When this message reaches the other end of the line, everyone crosses their legs the other way so their left leg is over the right and continues reading...

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Yapoocha

A tribe of "Indians" are dancing around their fire, while the "Chief" sits cross legged to one side. After a while they all stop dancing, and one approaches the chief. "Oh great chief, is it time for Yapoocha?" The chief looks up at the stars and the moon, then shakes his head. "It is not yet time for Yapoocha".

The dance continues for a while, then stops and someone else approaches the chief and asks the same question.

Once again the chief looks at the stars and the moon and answers, "It is not yet time for Yapoocha".

The dancing carries on again, then stops and yet another person approaches the chief. This time the chief looks at the stars and moon, pretends to think hard for a moment, then says, "Yes, now is the time for Yapoocha!"

The "Indians" then make a line, and start dancing the "Hokey Pokey" - "Yapoocha left hand in, yapoocha left hand out..."

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The Lawnmower

You need 5 scouts, one to be a lawn mower one to be a guy trying to start the lawn mower and three others that attempt to help him. Scout one has several tries at starting the lawnmower without success, then scout two comes along.
Scout two: What you doing?
Scout one: Trying to start my lawn mower.
Scout two: Let me try. (Scout two gives the lawn mower a jerk and the scout posing as a lawn mower acts as if it won't start up.)
Scout one: No luck.
Scout three: What ya doing.
Scout one and two: Trying to start the lawn mower.
Scout three: Let me try. (He gives the scout posing as a lawn mower a big pull but it just makes noise.)
Scout one: No luck.
Scout four: What ya doing.
Scout one, two, and three: Trying to start the lawn mower.
Scout four: let me give it jerk. (He jerks it and the scout posed as a mower pretends to start.)
Scout one: Thanks, I guess it only took a BIG JERK to start it.
(If you can get a gullible "guest artist" to take the role of scout four, perhaps a scouter, you could just tell them their lines without explaining how the skit ends.)

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