

Magnifying Glass and Fire

Category	Activities
Advancement	Campcraft
Time to allocate (mins)	20
Outcome	Build a fire without matches
	Magnifying glasses
Resources	Wood
	Kindling
Instructions	<p>Using the magnifying glass, and some kindling, start a fire. This method requires that you concentrate strong sunlight through a clear lens or with a curved mirror (like the mirrored cup in a large flashlight). When this concentrated sunlight forms a blinding, white-hot point on some suitable tinder, the flammable stuff will start to smolder. The red ember you created can then be blown into flame when combined with more tinder. Sounds easy, right? And it can be, if you learn to use a magnifying lens more effectively by lighting fine fibers, dark tinder, and char cloth.</p> <p>Now make some sun art - burn a pattern or your name into a piece of wood using the magnifying glass.</p>

Entry written by Sharon Venn of 1st Randburg