

Guidelines for leading spoon-making
N. Grenier 10/26/2017

A) Have students gather branches for firewood, and for spoon burning. Pawpaw is probably the easiest wood to burn and carve, but tulip poplar and maple also work well, and yield more sturdy spoons.

B) Some student(s) build a substantial fire, and light it. While fire burns down to embers, students do following:

1) Find a suitable branch, or branches, 1.5" - 2" wide, dead and dry, not rotten or buggy.

2) Students should cut branch into sections - 1 section for each student.

3) Students split each section and begin to burn out spoons as suitable embers become available.

After holes are burned in, students should work in pairs, helping each other carve the spoons by batoning: one student holds the knife, controlling the angle, the other hits the knife with a stick.

Carve the tip of the spoon, first, and continue working toward the handle.