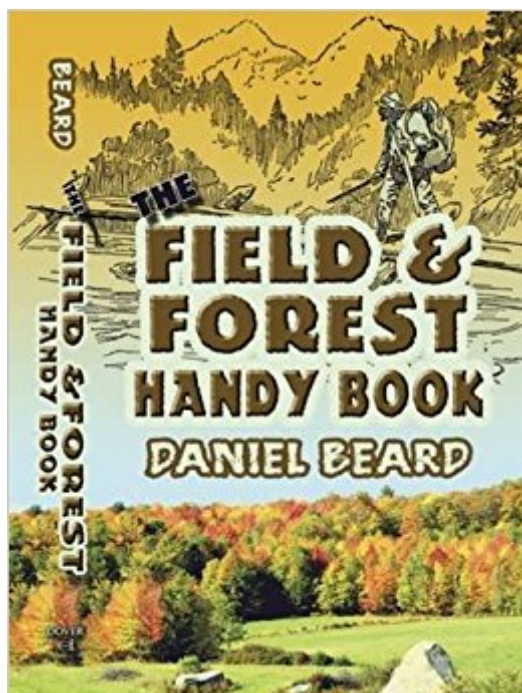


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# The Field And Forest Handy Book (Dover Children's Activity Books)



## Synopsis

Written by a co-founder of the Boy Scouts of America, this appealing guide introduces the pleasures and challenges of outdoor life. Although it was published a century ago, Daniel C. Beard's book offers timeless tips that show boys and girls how to feel at home in nature. With a cheerful, "can-do" attitude, Beard presents clear directions and simple diagrams for building birdhouses, boats, igloos, and other fun projects, along with numerous helpful tips for campers. Truly a book for all seasons, *The Field and Forest Handy Book* begins with the spring and features year-round activities, from constructing kites and rafts to building camp stoves and bobsleds. There's even a chapter on "How to Build Indoor Play Houses, Secret Castles and How to Make Mysterious Chests" for the inevitable rainy days. These activities encourage young people to experience the wonders of nature and foster a sense of self-sufficiency and independence. With this book in hand, they can transform even a small backyard into a land of adventure, with activities that will occupy them for hours and projects that are fun to make, and also produce working results.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 32 customer reviews

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## Customer Reviews

Daniel C. Beard (1850-1941), a founder of the Boy Scouts of America, introduces the adventure inherent in the great outdoors and offers simple solutions for overcoming various obstacles in *The Field and Forest Handy Book: New Ideas for Out of Doors*, first published in 1906 and now reissued in a facsimile edition. Readers can learn how to make a luna kite in the spring, a cheap boat in the summer, an altar camp stove in the autumn and a toboggan in the winter. For those who want to

stay indoors, a chapter titled "How to Build Play Houses, Secret Castles and How to Make Mysterious Chests" is included. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Daniel Beard was born in 1850 and lived most of his life in Kentucky. From an early age, Beard decided to devote his life to American boyhood. He was a prolific writer, illustrator, the founder of two different societies for boys and one of the original founding members of the Boy Scouts of America. Before his death in 1941, Beard received the only Golden Eagle badge ever awarded from the Boy Scouts of America, and had the mountain peak adjoining Mt. McKinley in Alaska named in his honor. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This is a great book not just for younger boy, but really anyone who enjoys being outside and making things. Tons of illustrations and clear instructions make this a wonderful book to cure even the strongest cases of boredom. One thing I really like about this book (most likely due to when it was originally written) is the fact it does not baby the reader, but expects them to have the smarts to work carefully and diligently. If you hurt your self doing any of these projects (and with neglect you probably will) it is your own fault and hopefully you learn a valuable lesson. Sometimes you have to hit your thumb with a hammer to learn not to leave your hand there.

For children who like to read, think, and do - and have a parent or dedicated adult to supervise - this is a great book!

I own this and two other of Mr. Beard's books published by Godine, or Nonpareil Books. That publisher does a great job with it's format, the books are smaller and easy to take with you. This one's approx. 7.5 x 5.5 and almost an inch and a half thick. As I've said in another review, The more I learn about Mr. Beard the more I'm a fan. The last book I read of his, 'The American Boy's Handybook' was just great. Mr. Beard also illustrates the books himself. I think it's rare to see such a gifted outdoorsman / teacher etc. with such fine drawing skills. This book and his other ones are also a joy to read. His style is fun and lively and he must have been a character in person because his personality comes through in his writing. I believe he was a friend of another of America's wittier scribes as well, Mark Twain. Mr. Beard's books don't suffer the same dry/booring fate of many other instructional tomes. I'll be buying these while they're still around, definitely recommended.

Originally written 100 years ago, this delightful book shows you how to enjoy the Great Outdoors. Divided seasonally, the author shows you, via illustrations and diagrams, how to make kites, bird houses, aquariums, boats, sleds, moccasins, shirts, and various camping utensils. For the more adventurous, he shows you how to construct bridges, dams, piers and outdoor dwellings of different kinds. He also provides tips for camping out in your own backyard. Dan Beard was one of the founders of the American Boy Scouts and an irresistibly cheerful, "can-do" attitude makes this book fun for the serious and armchair outdoorsperson alike.

D.C. Beard was one of the founders of the American Boy Scout movement. These books and the Sons of Daniel Boone, etc. preface what came to be the Boy Scout Handbook. Great crafts, skills, and hobbies from a lost time.

A fun read. Informative. Have been an outdoorsman for 40 years and I learned some new skills from this book. Content is aimed primarily at youth of years-gone-by... I smiled plenty of times while reading it.

Bought this book as a gift for my daughter. She found it in a catalog but I found it cheaper here. She loves it.

This is a great glimpse into old school fun and games. Back when most boys had bigger brass ones than most men do today. Many men of my generation have fathers that never took them camping or got them into the great outdoors. This book is from a time when boys didn't need the latest game console and a 55" 1080p HDTV to enjoy themselves. When boys had to rely on their wits and ingenuity to entertain themselves. And yes, they did risk breaking their neck or drowning or hypothermia or snakebite. It still isn't a sterile world, no matter how much people have tried to make it so. But this book comes from a time when people recognized that the world was potentially dangerous, and accepted the risks in order to live free. This book contains many projects and little practical detail. Boys are expected to use their brain (gasp! what? no detailed step-by-step? how will we cope?) to figure out the details. And if that fails, they were expected to come to their father or nearby father figure. And that is where this book really shines. As a father, I've sat down with my son, opened this book and looked through projects with him, offering suggestions or advice, sometimes helping out. Now, beware, some of these projects are not suitable any longer. We no longer live in a world where a vast forest stretches from sea to shining sea, so some of these

projects will be daydreams alone. But man, there's some awesome stuff in here. Buy it, grab your son (or little brother) sit down and figure out how to conquer your world.

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