

## RUN-ONS

Run-ons are similar to skits, but generally shorter and require only one or two actors. Interspersed between songs, skits and other parts of the campfire, they can be used to fill dead time and enliven the program. Frequently they are introduced as a comical interruption of the program. Develop your own run-ons from your favorite jokes and cartoons.

A frantic figure runs onstage.  
Boy one: They're after me! They're after me!  
Boy two: Who's after you?  
Boy one: The squirrels—they think I'm nuts!

A dejected figure approaches his friend.  
Boy One: It just doesn't work! It just doesn't work!  
Boy Two: What doesn't work?  
Boy One: A dead horse!

A desperate fellow runs onstage.  
Boy One: It's all around me! It's all around me!  
Boy Two: What's all around you?  
Boy One: My belt!

Man crawls onstage, cries: "Water, water!" Second fellow comes running with a glass of water. First man thanks him, takes the glass, pulls out a comb and uses the water to comb his hair.

Boy enters, dragging a rope across the stage.  
Boy Two: Why are you dragging that rope?  
Boy One: Have you ever tried pushing one?

Boy enters, pushing a rope that has been secured to a stick or wire.  
Boy Two: What on earth are you doing?  
Boy One: Why, pushing the rope, of course!

Man points to sky.  
Man: is that the sun or the moon up there?  
Boy: I don't know, I'm a stranger here too.

Boy One: The other day a girl rolled her eyes at me.  
Boy Two: Really? What did you do?  
Boy One: Well, I picked them up and rolled them right back!

Boy One (Singing)...Soap.... Soap!  
Boy Two: What are you doing?  
Boy One: Oh, just singing a few bars!

Man picks up ringing telephone.  
Man: You don't say... you don't day... you don't say!  
Boy: Who was that?  
Man: I don't know. He didn't say.

Fortuneteller: That'll be \$20 for two questions.  
Boy: Isn't that a lot of money for two questions?  
Fortuneteller: Yes, it is. Now what is your second question?

Boy One: I've been seeing spots before my eyes.  
Boy Two: Have you seen a doctor?  
Boy One: No, just spots.

Boy One (runs on stage) We interrupt this program for a hot news flash!  
(second person runs on stage, lights a match, then exits.)

Announcer: We interrupt this program for a spot announcement.  
Dog (offstage): Arf! Arf! Arf!  
Announcer: Thank you Spot.

Boy: What's your occupation?  
Leader: I used to be an organist.  
Boy: Why did you quit?  
Leader: The monkey died.

Man walks onstage, faces audience, and in a dignified voice says:"Poem, by  
Henry Gibson, 'Ecology'.  
I shot an arrow into the air... it stuck1"

Boy One: It's an udder disaster! An udder disaster!

Boy Two: What's an udder disaster?

Boy One: The cow's gone dry.

Man has just been beaten up, and is sitting on the ground rubbing his jaw.

Boy: Can you describe the man who hit you?

Man: Are you kidding? That's what I was doing when he hit me!

Boy One: What have you got in that bag?

Boy Two: Milk.

Boy One: You can't carry milk in a bag!

Boy Two: Why not? Cows do!

We interrupt this program to bring you a message from the branch office! (Boy enters with a branch.)

Two men enter, find some tracks on the ground, and argue over whether they are bear tracks or raccoon tracks. The argument gets heated, and is ended when both are run over by a train (several boys moving in a chain, the first one holding a flashlight to simulate a train's headlight, making train like noises).

Man enters, carrying a case. "I'm taking my case to court!" Enters again, carrying ladder. "I'm taking my case to a higher court! A stranger runs through, carrying a coat or suit of clothes on a hanger. First man enters, saying "I've lost my suit!" At next entry, he is peeling a banana or orange. "I'm appealing my case!

He announces.

Two silent figures run across the stage, one chasing the other with an upraised club. Repeat several times, the figures moving slower each time. Finally the first man stumbles, followed by the second, who crawls forward on his hands and knees, panting, and raises his club to hit the first man, who cowers helplessly.

The second man taps the first man quickly and lightly with the club, yells "You're it" and runs off at

Top speed, followed closely by the first.

Man runs onstage, bends over and makes hoeing motions.

Boy: What are you doing?

Man: Hoeing.

Boy: What are you hoeing?  
Man: Corn.  
Boy: Where'd you get the corn?  
Man: From the last joke!

A cannibal is complaining to his witchdoctor.  
Cannibal: Doctor, I've got a terrible stomachache.  
Doctor: What have you been eating lately?  
Cannibal: Last night I had a man for dinner.  
Doctor: What kind of man did you have?  
Cannibal: Well, you know—he was little, fat, bald, and wore a robe with a rope around it.  
Doctor: How did you cook him?  
Cannibal: I boiled him.  
Doctor: That's your problem—he was a friar!

Customer: Waiter, what's this fly doing in my soup?  
Waiter comes to table looks in bowl, answers: "It's doing the backstroke!"

Joe (offstage): Hey Fred! I'm up in a 10,000-ft hemlock tree!  
Fred: But Joe, we don't have any 10,000 ft hemlock trees in camp!  
Joe: Are you sure?  
Fred: Of course I am.  
Joe(shrieks as if falling)- Aieeee!

First fellow walks onstage, tossing a small object into the air and catching it.  
Second fellow: What are you doing?  
First fellow: I'm throwing up!

Boy One: Did you hear how Mother strained herself?  
Boy Two: No. How did she do it?  
Boy One: She ran through a screen door!

Ladies and Gentlemen! I am now going to pull a funny faced! (walk into audience; yank someone's face).

Man searches for a lost item under a street lamp (someone holding flashlight aimed at the ground). A  
Stranger enters, asks what he's doing. "I lost my keys." Stranger helps him look for a while, finally ask

Where the man lost them. “Over there” comes the reply, and the first man points out into the darkness. “Then why are you looking over here?” the stranger asks. First man says “ Because it’s to dark to see Over there.

Fellow walks onstage, collapses. Two scouts enter, announce that they know CPR, and commence trying to revive patient. After a minute, one yells “Switch”. All three actors now change places—one taking the place of the victim, one doing mouth to mouth, one doing heart massage.

Announcer walks onstage, tells audience of imminent arrival of a runner who has just run 100 miles. “Here he comes now!” Runner comes into view, almost exhausted, stop by announcer, who pretends to interview him with the aid of a microphone. “How do you feel, now that you have just finished running 100 miles?” “Water, I need water!” Third fellow comes running at top speed with a bucket, at the last minute he trips and spills contents of bucket into audience (bucket could be filled with leaves or pine needles, etc.).

Several boys walk onstage, hitting rocks together. Lone boy asks “What are you crazy kids doing?”  
Group of boys reply, “Oh, we’re just having a little rock concert!”

Angry fellow runs onstage.

Angry fellow: Hey Farmer!

Farmer: Yup?

Angry fellow: I thought you said I could drive my truck across your pond!

Farmer: Yup?

Angry Fellow: Well, I did, and it sunk clear out of sight!

Farmer: (pause) I can’t understand it—it only comes up to here (points to my waist) on my ducks!

Boy One: Enters, spraying from a can.

Boy Two: What are you doing?

Boy One: Spraying elephant repellent.

Boy Two: Why, there aren’t any elephants within 10,000 miles of here!

Boy One: Well, it does a pretty good job, doesn’t it?