

Platform Presentation Topics

Learning is a journey. And when merit badge requirements or Scout skills is the destination of choice, you are the guide! You wouldn't go on a hike without preparing, so we don't expect you to teach without doing the same.



Your task is to prepare a 5-7 minute lesson on one of the topics listed below. Choose a topic from your track and put together a quality lesson for that topic. You will be instructing a group of 10 other staff members. At the conclusion of the lesson, we will participate in a group-led reflection and evaluation.

Please make sure to bring any necessary visual aids, props, or handouts that will be needed for your presentation. Flipcharts and whiteboards will be available, but **Presentations requiring electricity are not permitted, just like summer camp.**

Resources available to you would include Merit Badge books, Handbooks, books, periodicals, newspapers, the Internet, and countless other sources.

→ **This lesson will be presented on Saturday, April 14, 2012.**

Boy Scout Track (BOY SCOUTS)

Badge / Rank	Req. #	Description
Tenderfoot	5	Explain the rules of safe hiking, both on the highway and cross-country, during the day and at night. Explain what to do if you are lost.
Mammal Study	1	Explain the meaning of "animal," "invertebrate," "vertebrate," and "mammal." Name three characteristics that distinguish mammals from all other animals.
Cooking	1b	Describe how meat, fish, chicken, eggs, dairy products, and fresh vegetables should be stored, transported, and properly prepared for cooking.
Woodcarving	5	Tell why different woods are used for different projects.
Wilderness Survival	9	Explain how to protect yourself from insects, reptiles, and bears.
Swimming	1	Discuss the prevention and treatment for health concerns that could occur while swimming, including hypothermia, dehydration, sunburn, heat exhaustion, heatstroke, muscle cramps, hyperventilation, spinal injury, stings and bites, and cuts and scrapes.
Nature	3	Explain the term "food chain." Give an example of a four-step land food chain and a four-step water food chain.
Fingerprinting	1	Give a short history of fingerprinting. Tell the difference between civil and criminal identification.
Indian Lore	3	Give a demonstration showing how a specific Indian group traditionally hunted, fished, or trapped.

Veteran Staff Track

Badge / Rank	Req. #	Description
First Class	1	Demonstrate how to find directions during the day and at night without using a compass.
Second Class	3c	Demonstrate proper care, sharpening, and use of the knife, saw, and ax, and describe when they should be used.
Backpacking	1	Discuss the prevention of and treatment for the health concerns that could occur while backpacking, including hypothermia, heat reactions, frostbite, dehydration, insect stings, tick bites, snakebite, and blisters.
Lifesaving	5	Show or explain the use of rowboats, canoes, and other small craft in performing rescues.
Weather	4	Tell what causes wind, why it rains, and how lightning and hail are formed.
Pulp and Paper	1	Tell the history of papermaking. Describe the part paper products play in our society and economy.
Geocaching	3	Explain the following terms used in geocaching: waypoint, log, cache, accuracy, difficulty and terrain ratings, attributes, trackable. Choose five additional terms to explain to your counselor.
Music	2	Name the five general groups of musical instruments. Create an illustration that shows how tones are generated and how instruments produce sound.

Assistant Directors / Directors

Badge / Rank	Req. #	Description
First Class	7	Discuss when you should and should not use lashings. Then demonstrate tying the timber hitch and clove hitch and their use in square, shear, and diagonal lashings by joining two or more poles or staves together.
Archery	2	Do the following: a. Name and point out the parts of an arrow. b. Describe three or more different types of arrows.
Citizenship in the Nation	5	List the six functions of government as noted in the preamble to the Constitution. Discuss with your counselor how these functions affect your family and local community.
Space Exploration	6	Describe the purpose and operation of ONE of the following: a. Space shuttle b. International Space Station
Environmental Science	2	Define the following terms: population, community, ecosystem, biosphere, symbiosis, niche, habitat, conservation, threatened species, endangered species, extinction, pollution prevention, brownfield, ozone, watershed, airshed, nonpoint source, hybrid vehicle, fuel cell.
Canoeing	5ab	Name and point out the major parts of a canoe. Describe how the length and shape of a canoe affect its performance.

Eagle Base and Trek

Badge / Rank	Req. #	Description
Watersports	4b	Name the different types of personal flotation devices (PFDs), and explain when each type should be used. Show how to choose and properly fit a PFD.
Climbing	2	Learn the Leave No Trace principles and Outdoor Code, and explain what they mean.
Shotgun Shooting	1h	Identify and explain three shotgun sports. Identify places in your community where you could shoot these sports and explain how you can join or be a part of shooting sports activities.
Home Repairs	1	Discuss general precautions related to home repairs. Name at least 10 safe practices that every home repairer should exercise.
COPE	n/a	Lead the group in a short exercise that emphasizes the importance of teamwork.
Trek	GPS	Explain how the Global Positioning System (GPS) works. Include marking and editing a waypoint, changing field functions, and changing the coordinate system in the unit.
Trek	Trail Cooking	Explain the different types of cooking gear available to take on the trail. Highlight its advantages and disadvantages under different scenarios.

Cub Scout Track

Badge / Rank	Req. #	Description
Geologist Activity Badge	2	Rocks and minerals are used in metals, glass, jewelry, road-building products, and fertilizer. Give examples of minerals used in these products.
Swimming Belt Loop	1	Explain rules of Safe Swim Defense. Emphasize the buddy system.
Forester Activity Badge	9	Describe both the benefits and the harm wildfires can cause in a forest ecosystem. Tell how you can prevent wildfire.
Fishing Belt Loop	1	Review your local fishing regulations with your leader or adult partner. Explain why they are important, and commit to following them.
Readyman Activity Badge	8	Tell what steps must be taken for a safe swim with your Webelos den, pack, family, or other group. Explain the reasons for the buddy system.
Astronomy Belt Loop	3	Explain the following terms: planet, star, solar system, galaxy, the Milky Way, black hole, red giant, white dwarf, comet, meteor, moon, asteroid, and universe.
Map and Compass Belt Loop	2	Explain how a compass works.
Naturalist Activity Badge	2	Give examples of a producer, a consumer, and a decomposer in the food chain of an ecosystem
Basketball Belt Loop	1	Explain the rules of basketball to your leader or adult partner.