ORIENTEERING

Introduction Your challenge as a summer camp merit badge counselor is to see that the Scouts who attend your session have the best opportunity to learn about orienteering. It is important that they have a positive experience. This lesson plan is designed to help you plan a logical, high-quality program. You may have to use a slightly different approach in presenting the material, based on your camp resources and facilities.

Resources Be sure to utilize all the resources available to you. There are many state and federal agencies that can assist you in presenting this merit badge program.

Note Requirement 7 will require a substantial amount of time to complete. A Scout will need to start working on this requirement before attending camp if he hopes to complete the merit badge during his stay at summer camp. Troops should be notified about this requirement before coming to camp. While orienteering is primarily an individual sport, BSA Youth Protection procedures call for using the buddy system. Requirement 7a can be completed by pairs or groups of Scouts.

DAY	ACTIVITY		DESCRIPTION
1	Greet Scouts	A.	Examine all merit badge cards for the Scoutmaster's signature. Make a roster of the Scouts.
	Discuss	B.	Discuss requirement 1.
	Discuss	C.	Discuss requirement 2.
	Demonstrate	D.	Have Scouts demonstrate requirement 3.
	Reminder	E.	Remind Scouts they need to teach their patrol or troop orienteering techniques for requirement 10.
2	Discuss/ Demonstrate	A.	Discuss and have Scouts demonstrate requirement 4.
	Review	B.	Demonstrate requirement 5. Have Scouts practice and then complete the requirement.
	Orient	C.	Have Scouts orient a 1000m-long course with three control markers in 30 minutes, then have Scout do requirements 7b, parts 1–4.
	Plan	D.	Have Scouts begin plans for a cross-country course 2,000 meters long with at least five control markers. Have them prepare a master map and control description sheet (requirement 8a).

3	Discuss/ Demonstrate	A.	Discuss and demonstrate requirement 6. Have Scouts practice and then complete the requirement.
	Orient	B.	Have Scouts orient a 1,500-meter-long course with five control markers in 30 minutes, then have Scouts do requirement 7b.
4	Demonstrate	A.	Have Scouts orient at least two different courses. If there are enough Scouts, have one group officiate while the other sets up the course. Then switch roles to complete requirements 8a and 9.
	Reminder	B.	Remind Scouts that they need to complete requirement 10 by tomorrow.
	Note	C.	This is the time to make sure that all the Scouts are proceeding on schedule. If it looks like anyone is having a problem completing the merit badge, the Scoutmaster should be notified.
5	Wrap Up	A.	Wrap up all the requirements. Prepare the merit badge cards for the proper signatures. If any Scout does not complete all the requirements, make sure that his records properly indicate the requirements that he has completed and that the Scout knows why he did not complete the badge requirements.
		B.	Submit necessary records to the camp program director.