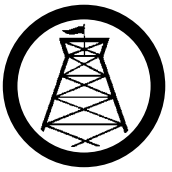
PIONEERING



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 pioneering. 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.

Note The pioneering projects described in this merit badge are done with large poles. These poles should not be cut from live trees for each project. The camp should have a supply cut and available to reuse each week at camp.

DAY	ACTIVITY		DESCRIPTION
1	Greet Scouts	A.	Examine all merit badge cards for the Scoutmaster's signature. Make a roster of the Scouts.
	Demonstrate	B.	Demonstrate how to coil and throw a 40-foot length of quarter-inch rope and have Scouts do the same (requirement 3).
	Demonstrate	C.	Demonstrate requirements 2b–c, then have Scouts practice.
	Discuss	D.	Describe the differences between synthetic ropes and natural-fiber ropes. Discuss which types of rope are suitable for pioneering work and why (requirement 4).
2	Demonstrate	A.	Have Scouts tie seven basic knots and hitches plus five additional ones, and explain how to use each one in pioneering (requirement 2).
	Demonstrate	B.	Have Scouts demonstrate a short, back, and eye splice (requirement 5).
	Demonstrate	C.	Have Scouts build a rope-making machine and complete requirement 6.
3	Build	A.	Have Scouts work on requirements 7, 9, and 10.
4	Demonstrate	A.	Have Scouts demonstrate the use of a rope tackle to lift a weight for requirement 8.
	Note	B.	Inform the Scoutmaster of any Scout who might not complete the badge.

5	Wrap Up	A.	Wrap up all the requirements.
		B.	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.
		C.	Submit necessary records to the camp program director.