

BACKPACKING

TROOP MEETING PLAN

Date _____ Week 1

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	RUN BY	TIME
Preopening _____ minutes	Locate the North Star, if it is dark enough, or practice telling directions without a compass. Set up a low-impact campsite for Scouts to see.		
Opening Ceremony _____ minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form patrols into an open square. • Recite the Outdoor Code. • Present colors. • Repeat the Pledge of Allegiance. 		
Skills Instruction _____ minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Scouts work on reading a compass and learn how to set a pace. Do Blindfold Compass Walk. (See the Games section of the <i>Troop Program Resources</i>. *) • Experienced Scouts work on choosing boots for backpacking and begin planning a 20-mile hike. • Older Scouts work on the Venture program. Review the principals of Leave No Trace and discuss ways they apply to the troop's next outing. 		
Patrol Meetings _____ minutes	Discuss plans for this month's outing and make sure everyone knows what his assignments are and what to bring for the outing. Any Scouts who have not been hiking yet will need some extra help. All other patrols can plan activities to work on advancement. Plan any meals that will be needed for the outing. If it will be an overnighter, plan now for equipment distribution and tent requirements.		
Interpatrol Activity _____ minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play Hot Isotope Transport. (See the Games section of the <i>Troop Program Resources</i>. *) • Run a mile and record the times. 		
Closing _____ minutes Total 90 minutes of meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assemble patrols, repeat the Scout Oath. • Scoutmaster's Minute. • Retire colors. 	SM	
After the Meeting	Patrol leaders' council reviews the next meeting and the backpacking outing. Begin work on next month's program feature.		

*Troop Program Resources for Scout Troops and Varsity Teams, Supply No. 33588

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Date _____ Week 2

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	RUN BY	TIME
Preopening _____ minutes			
Opening Ceremony _____ minutes			
Skills Instruction _____ minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Scouts work on low-impact camping procedures, including site selection and cooking with Peak-type stoves. • Experienced Scouts work on packing procedures for the backpacking outing and select some campsites based on a topographic map of the camping area. • Older Scouts work on the Venture program or make plans to sleep under a shelter made from natural materials as part of the troop outing. 		
Patrol Meetings _____ minutes	Review assignments for the campout. First-time hikers in the new-Scout patrol continue working on troop procedures for hiking and camping. All other patrols continue to plan activities for advancement. Practice interpatrol activities.		
Interpatrol Activity _____ minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Run a mile and record the times. • Do Silver Dollar Hunt. (See the Games section of the <i>Troop Program Resources</i>.) 		
Closing _____ minutes Total 90 minutes of meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scoutmaster's Minute. • Retire colors. 	SM	
After the Meeting	Patrol leaders' council reviews the next meeting and plans for the troop outing. Continue work on next month's program feature.		

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TROOP MEETING PLAN

Date _____ Week 3

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	RUN BY	TIME
Preopening _____ minutes			
Opening Ceremony _____ minutes			
Skills Instruction _____ minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Scouts work on reading topographic maps and learn the symbols used on maps; also what to do if they get lost (<i>Boy Scout Handbook</i>). Play Map Symbol Relay. (See the Games section of the <i>Troop Program Resources</i>.*) • Experienced Scouts plan projects that could be done along the hike route. • Older Scouts work on the Venture program or help younger Scouts with topographic map orientation. 		
Patrol Meetings _____ minutes	Finalize the menu for the hike this week and make sure everyone knows what he will need to bring. Review clothing and equipment needs, and collect the necessary fees. Go over the hike route.		
Interpatrol Activity _____ minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play Ball Over. (See the Games section of the <i>Troop Program Resources</i>.*) • Run a mile and record the times. 		
Closing _____ minutes Total 90 minutes of meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scoutmaster's Minute. • Retire colors. 	SM	
After the Meeting	Patrol leaders' council reviews the next meeting and plans for the hike. Continue work on next month's program feature.		

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TROOP MEETING PLAN

Date _____ **Week 4**

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	RUN BY	TIME
Preopening _____ minutes			
Opening Ceremony _____ minutes			
Skills Instruction _____ minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Scouts work on first aid for blisters, cuts, and sprains. • Experienced Scouts bring packs to the meeting and have a pre hike inspection. • Older Scouts work on the Venture program or assist in teaching first-aid techniques. 		
Patrol Meetings _____ minutes	Review plans and assignments for the hike/campout. Make sure everyone knows the travel plans and equipment needs. Review the patrol duty roster. Practice any interpatrol activities that will take place during the hike.		
Interpatrol Activity _____ minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do Star Hunt. (See the Games section of the <i>Troop Program Resources</i>.) • Run a mile and record the times. 		
Closing _____ minutes Total 90 minutes of meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scoutmaster's Minute—reflection on the experiences of the month. • Retire colors. 	SM	
After the Meeting	Patrol leaders' council reviews the next meeting and checks last-minute details for the outing. Finalize work on next month's program feature.		

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TROOP OUTDOOR PROGRAM PLAN

Date _____

TIME	ACTIVITY	RUN BY
Friday evening	Load gear at meeting location, leave for campsite. Plan only a light meal en route.	SPL
	Arrive at the campsite. Off-load equipment. Set up patrol sites. Stow gear and set up camp.	
Saturday 6:30 A.M.	Cooks and assistants up. Prepare breakfast. (Cooks should be working on First and Second Class requirements.)	Cooks, assistants
7:00 A.M.	Everyone else up. Take care of personal hygiene, air tents, hang out sleeping bags.	
7:30 A.M.	Breakfast	
8:00 A.M.	Clean up.	Cooks
	Patrols clean up patrol site.	
8:30–11:30 A.M.	Give patrol leaders a topographic map to make a 2- to 3-mile hike. The new-Scout patrol could take a simpler hike. Older Scouts could begin a 15- to 20-mile weekend survival hike.	SPL
11:30 A.M.	Sack lunch	
Noon	Continue hikes.	
4:30 P.M.	Start dinner preparation.	Cooks
5:30 P.M.	Dinner	SPL
6:00 P.M.	Clean up.	Cooks
8:00 P.M.	Campfire	
9:00 P.M.	Cracker barrel	
10:00 P.M.	Lights out	
Sunday 6:30 A.M.	Cooks and assistants up. Prepare breakfast. (Cooks should be working on First and Second Class requirements.)	Cooks
7:00 A.M.	Everyone else up. Take care of personal hygiene needs, air tents, hang out sleeping bags.	
7:30 A.M.	Breakfast	
8:00 A.M.	Clean up.	Cooks
	Patrols clean up patrol site.	
8:30 A.M.	Worship service	

TIME	ACTIVITY	RUN BY
9:00–11:00 A.M.	Patrol games—run a 1-K orienteering course.	
11:00 A.M.	Break camp.	
Special equipment needs	Topographic maps, clipboards, compasses, troop camping equipment	