

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 Outdoor Code. • Present colors. • Repeat 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 ("Program Specialties" section of this book). • Experienced Scouts work on choosing boots for backpacking and begin planning a 20-mile hike. • Older Scouts work on the Venture/Varsity program or use a topographic map of the troop campout area to plan an orienteering course. 		
Patrol Meetings _____ minutes	Discuss plans for the outing this month and make sure everyone knows what their 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 is going to be an overnight, begin to make plans for equipment distribution and tentage needs.		
Interpatrol Activity _____ minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hot Isotope Transport ("Program Specialties" section of this book) • Run a mile and record times 		
Closing _____ minutes Total 90 minutes of meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assemble patrols, repeat Scout Oath • Scoutmaster's Minute • Retire colors 	SM	
After the Meeting	Patrol leaders' council reviews next meeting and the backpacking outing. Begin work on next month's program feature.		