



Every human is constantly communicating through speech, reading, body language, even a raised eyebrow. We have many other means of sending and receiving messages, too—the telephone, TV and radio, photographs and drawings, computers, recorded tapes and compact discs.

This month your Scouts can explore some of the older means of communication through Morse code, flags, and sign language. Each patrol might want to become proficient in one means of communication and teach it to the others.

The big event will be a send-the-word campout. Besides having contests in communication skills, the troop can also work on other outdoor and nature skills. To top off your activities, you'll want to have a troop campfire that provides an opportunity to use various means of communication.

SCOUTING OUTCOMES

This month's patrol and troop activities should give your Scouts:

- The knowledge and skills to be comfortable in communication methods.
- A sense of communion with nature and God.
- Greater respect for the outdoors and a determination to follow the Outdoor Code.
- Growing self-confidence.
- Enhanced camping skills.

ADVANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

By the end of the month, all Scouts should have met the majority of their basic camping requirements through First

Class. Depending on the campout activities, they may also complete all or part of the following rank requirements:

Tenderfoot

- Outdoor—Cooking, camping
- Citizenship—Flag ceremonies
- Patrol/troop participation—Patrol identification
- Personal development—Scout Oath and Law

Second Class

- Outdoor—Cooking, camping
- Citizenship—Flag ceremonies
- Patrol/troop participation—Patrol identification
- Personal development—Scout Oath and Law
- Physical fitness—Drug awareness

First Class

- Outdoor—Cooking, camping, nature, hiking
- Citizenship—Flag ceremonies
- Patrol/troop participation—Patrol identification
- Personal development—Scout Oath and Law

Merit Badges. Older Scouts can concentrate on the Signaling, Communications, and Computers merit badges this month; they should be able to complete many of the requirements. Depending on activities during the campout, they may also complete requirements in Cooking, Hiking, Camping, and other nature-related merit badges.