



Engineering covers a variety of fields as broad as all outdoors—or indoors, for that matter. Virtually everything we use in the course of a normal day has an engineer's stamp on it.

In Scouting, we specialize in "wilderness engineering"—the art of building useful things with rope and timber. Your Scouts will probably want to try their hand at it this month.

For Scouts who enjoy making things, recommend that they try to earn the Engineering merit badge. It will expose them to various facets of engineering, and it may lead them to work on such other merit badges as Computers, Drafting, Electricity, Electronics, Machinery, and Metals Engineering.

The big event will be a campout during which the patrols can do some wilderness engineering and enjoy interpatrol competitions.

SCOUTING OUTCOMES

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

- Enhanced outdoor skills, especially in knot-tying, lashings, and engineering.
- A greater understanding of the importance of conservation.
- An understanding of some of the principles of engineering as they build temporary structures and camp equipment.
- Growing self-confidence.

ADVANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

By the end of the month, all Scouts should have met the majority of their basic pioneering and 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, hiking, camping
- Citizenship—Flag ceremonies
- Patrol/troop participation—Patrol identification
- Personal development—Scout Oath and Law

Second Class

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

First Class

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

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

PARENT PARTICIPATION

The patrol leaders' council may involve parents in the program feature this month by:

- Asking those qualified to help with instruction for camping, pioneering, and engineering skills.
- Inviting them on the campout.
- Asking them to provide transportation to the campsite.