

Preparing for a Lesson

Prepare your lesson plan

If you are going to be successful teaching you have to go in with a plan.

- *Define your objective:* Before you start planning a lesson set *specific* goals that you want the scouts to learn. Always check back to make sure what you are planning works toward this objective.
- Break a lesson down into three components:
 1. Teach – Give the instructions about what you are teaching. Engage the class as much as possible. Try to give a mnemonic to help the scouts remember the basics of the lesson. Give the minimum amount of information needed to get the scouts working on something.
 2. Practice – as soon as possible, get the boys working hands on with the lesson. You can continue teaching here as needed but at a level that individuals need.
 3. Review – This may happen at the end of class or possibly at the next meeting or another program session if you are at camp. There are many methods of reviewing.
 - Final project: Something really cool that uses the skills they learned.
 - Game: There are many games that can be modified to be used as review. For example: Knot tying relay, Citizenship Jeopardy.
- After you come up with a plan figure out what supplies you need to do the lesson and gather/buy them.
 - Having the right stuff is critical to a good lesson. Try not to settle for items that are good enough.
 - Don't assume you can find what you need in the troop room or patrol box right before you teach. Make extra time to gather equipment.
- Make notes about what you need to do for your classroom space so and plan how to make it happen.

Prepare yourself

- Review the skills you are teaching.
- Learn some extra. It is best to know more than you are trying to teach.
- Practice the lesson. This can be done with a sibling, your parents, a friend, or even in front of the mirror. This will help you with timing, and you will be able to see how effective the lesson is.

Prepare your “classroom”

- Arrive early enough to get everything set up.
- Have your equipment laid out so you can easily access it.
- Get distractions out of the way.
- As much as possible have everything ready when the boys show up. If they have to wait between segments they will lose interest.

Discipline:

- The best way to handle discipline is to follow all the previous steps. Discipline problems usually start when kids aren't busy. If everything is prepared you can easily flow from one step to the next without people getting distracted.
- When the inevitable problems do arise there some basic steps you can follow.
 - Don't yell or scream at the Scout.
 - Start by giving them a look that says you don't appreciate what they are doing.
 - If that doesn't work or they don't see you, change your position so you are standing very close to them while you are still teaching.
 - Quietly ask them to stop and focus on the lesson.
 - If needed, remove the Scout from an activity and/or ask an adult for help.

Websites with Lesson Ideas – You don't need to reinvent the wheel. Use these sources to jump start your lessons.

- www.netwoods.com
- www.scouter.net

Lesson plan

| | | | |
|------------|--|-------------|--|
| Topic: | | Date: | |
| Ref. Reqs. | | Planned By: | |

Objective:

Teaching:

Practice

Review

Supplies

List everything you need to gather for the lesson you have planned. Include all items including pen, paper and Handbook.

| Qty | Item | Where to get it | Got it |
|-----|------|-----------------|--------|
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Classroom Prep

Note everything you need to get the teaching area ready: seats, markings, etc.