PATHFINDING

Pathfinding is following existing routes or finding new routes to interesting places, and not getting lost, all the while observing what God has provided along the way!

THINGS TO KNOW AND DO

Complete the ★ Tasks, plus the number of tasks listed in each section.

Task 1

Complete the following task.

Maps are tools used to help you find your way. There are many kinds of maps—road maps, topographic maps, star maps, and digital maps.

Collect several kinds of maps, including one of your city or camp. Know how to read the maps and explain the symbols and scales used on each one. Use a map to take a one-mile hike around your neighborhood or camp.

Task 2

Complete the following task.

There are a number of electronic gadgets you might use to help you find your way, but none is as reliable as a map and compass.

Demonstrate the following:

- How an orienteering compass works.
- How to take a compass bearing and follow it.

If you need help, check your local library for a copy of the Boy Scout Handbook or go online to www.learn-orienteering.org/old/.

Task 3

Complete the following task.

With your troop, go on a trailing and mapping hike. After selecting a meeting site, divide into two groups. Each group should take a different route to the site, drawing a map and laying a trail along the way. The groups should swap maps for the return route.
2. SPEAK WITH A POLICE OFFICER ABOUT WHAT YOU SHOULD AND SHOULD NOT DO IF YOU GET LOST IN THE CITY.

Share what you learn with your troop.

3. WHENEVER YOU DECIDE TO GO ON A TRIP, IT IS IMPORTANT TO MAKE PLANS FIRST.

Write a plan for a proposed trip that includes:

- Destination, travel routes, and the cost of gas meals
- Lodging, sightseeing, and entertainment

Mind Matters

Complete at least TWO of the following tasks.

1. DISTRESS SIGNALS SAVE LIVES IN AN EMERGENCY.

Memorize this information:

- The international distress signal is any kind of signal repeated three times (examples: three fires equally spaced, three flashes of a mirror, tin-can lid or flashlight).

- Ground-to-air signals must be large and clear enough to be seen by an airplane. Tramp out SOS in the sand or snow or make the letters using branches, burned grass, or any material that may be seen.

- AND -

- Simulate an emergency situation during a troop hike. Show how you would use materials found in the area to signal for help.
3. SECURE A MAP OF YOUR CITY.

On the map, mark the locations of the places listed below. Chart the shortest route from the courthouse or city hall to each location. Mark important items (streets, highways, roads, buildings, lakes, parks, etc.) one half mile in all four directions from your home or corps. Or, draw a detailed map following the same instructions.

- Courthouse or city hall
- The Salvation Army or your church
- Hospital
- Police department
- Fire department
- Bank
- Train or bus station
- Grocery store
- Restaurant
- Shopping area
- Museum or a historical site
- Theater or arena
- City dump or disposal area

4. GEOCACHING IS LIKE COMBINING ORIENTEERING WITH TREASURE HUNTING.

Go geocaching to find a cache in your community or at your camp. Be sure you follow the rules of etiquette. Log on to www.opencaching.com/en/#!guide/geocaching-etiquette to find help.

Learn to navigate using nature, the path of the sun, stars, shadows, plants, etc.

Log on to www.briangreen.net/2011/02/navigating-without-compass-part-3.html to find one interesting method to try.

Body Basics

Complete at least ONE of the following tasks.

❤ ❤ ❤ ❤ ❤

1. LEARN HOW TO STAY SAFE BEFORE YOU GO.

The USDA Forestry Service has prepared a list of advice for Outdoor Safety. Log on to www.fs.fed.us/recreation/safety/safety.shtml to find a helpful resource. Review and understand the list before you go orienteering, hiking, or geocaching.

2. COMPLETE THE SAFETY FIRST—FIRST AID EMBLEM.
If you enjoyed this activity, find out how to put it to work. Talk to your school counselor about career opportunities that would allow you to use your new skills. What can you do now to help you prepare for a related job in the future?

Here are several careers related to this emblem. There are many others.

- Cartographer
- Aerospace Navigation
- GPS Technician
If you are working on the Catherine Booth Award, take photos to share with the Review Committee.

1. HIDE A GEOCACHE.

Consider a theme, such as Girl Guards or The Salvation Army. Register and maintain the cache for at least 60 days. Here is a site that tells you how to do this for the first time. www.geocaching.com/about/hiding.aspx.

2. YOU LEARNED HOW TO FIND YOUR WAY WHILE COMPLETING THE PATHFINDING ACTIVITY.

Now you will have the challenge of orienteering. Orienteering is moving from place to place using a map, a compass, and landmarks to help you find your way. Complete an orienteering course at a divisional camp, state park, or a location in your area.

If you have trouble finding a course, contact a local scouting office or log on to www.orienteeringusa.org to learn about permanent courses in your area.

Additional Resources

Websites

Geocaching Equipment www.geocaching.com/blog/2013/02/here-are-9-geocaching-tools-what-else-should-you-pack/

Minnesota Orienteering Club www.mnoc.org/links.shtml

Pathfinding on Pinterest www.pinterest.com/sagirlguards/pathfinding/
## PATHFINDING

### MY TASKS AND ACTIVITIES:

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### MY NOTES:

### MY BIG IDEAS:

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