



Introduction

Your challenge as a summer camp merit badge counselor is to see that the Scouts who attend your session have the best opportunity to learn about soil and water conservation. This may be the first merit badge on which the Scouts will be working. It is important that they have a positive experience. This lesson plan is designed to help you plan a logical, high-quality program. You may have to use a slightly different approach in presenting the material based on your camp resources and facilities. Several requirements in this merit badge involve writing; school is out for the summer, so be creative on how Scouts can share the necessary information in those requirements. Sign off on the requirements as the Scouts complete them.

Resources

Be sure to utilize all the resources available to you. There are many state and federal agencies that can provide you with a variety of materials and displays, and can make presentations at your camp. Make sure you don't wait until the last minute to ask for help. These agencies need time to arrange for personnel and materials.

DAY	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
1	Greet Scouts	A. Examine all merit badge cards for the Scoutmaster's signature. Make a roster of the Scouts.
	Review	B. Review the information the Scouts need to know for requirements 1a–c.
	Discuss	C. Discuss with the Scouts requirements 2a, 2b, 3a, 4a, and 4d.
	Hike	D. Complete requirements 4b and 4c, and bring to the merit badge area tomorrow.
2	Review	A. Review briefly some of the items you did in day 1. Review requirements 4b and 4c and sign off on completion.
	Hike	B. Take a hike, stopping at various times to show kinds of soil erosion (requirement 2c) and three kinds of erosion-control practices (requirement 3b).
	Review	C. Complete and bring to the merit badge class tomorrow the items needed for requirements 2d, 3c, and 7e.
	Plan	D. Select a conservation project you will work on this week.
3	Review	A. Discuss the water cycle in requirement 5. Ask if the Scouts have any questions about this requirement.
	Demonstrate	B. Demonstrate requirement 5b and allow each Scout to try it.

- Discuss C. Discuss requirements 5c–e
- Complete D. Have Scouts complete requirement 5a and bring their work to the merit badge area tomorrow. Remember not to judge for artistic talent but for what the drawing represents. Sign off on requirements.
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- 4 Review A. Review requirement 5a with Scouts.
- Remind B. Have Scouts work on requirement 6d and bring to the merit badge area tomorrow.
- Work C. Work on the soil and water conservation project.
- Note D. Allow Scouts time to work on individual requirements. Remind them that tomorrow is the last day to have these requirements approved at camp. Inform the Scoutmaster of any Scout who might not complete the badge.
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- 5 Wrap up A. Wrap up all the requirements. Prepare the merit badge cards for the proper signatures. If any Scout does not complete all the requirements, make sure that his records properly indicate the requirements that he has completed and that the Scout knows why he did not complete the badge requirements.
- B. Submit necessary records to the camp program director.