



GEOCACHING

BYU Merit Badge PowWow

Official Merit Badge Worksheet

Scout's Name

Instructor's Name

Scout's Address

City

State

ZIP

Instructions

- 1) The Scout is to review the merit badge book before the first week of PowWow.
- 2) Bring this work sheet, paper, and pencil or pen each week.
- 3) **Bring a Merit Badge blue card with you on the second week.**

Requirement Instructions*

- 1) Requirement 8 should be started as homework **prior to the first session of PowWow.**
- 2) Requirements 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 should be passed off during the two sessions of PowWow.
- 3) Requirements 7 and 9 **must be completed as homework** between the two sessions of PowWow.

*** Due to possible time constraints at the PowWow, certain requirements that were originally planned to be completed in class may need to be completed as homework. Please listen to all instructions in class to be aware of any changes.**

Requirement 1

Initial

- a) Explain the most likely hazards you may encounter while participating in geocaching activities and what you should do to anticipate, help prevent, mitigate, and respond to these hazards.

Hazard:

Anticipate & Prevent:

Mitigate & Respond:

Hazard:

Anticipate & Prevent:

Mitigate & Respond:

Hazard:

Anticipate & Prevent:

Mitigate & Respond:

Hazard:

Anticipate & Prevent:

Mitigate & Respond:

Hazard:

Anticipate & Prevent:

Mitigate & Respond:

- b) Discuss first aid and prevention for the types of injuries or illnesses that could occur while participating in geocaching activities, including:

Cuts-

Scrapes-

Snakebite-

Insect stings-

Tick bites –

Exposure to poisonous plants-

Heat and cold reactions (sunburn, heatstroke, heat exhaustion, hypothermia)-

Dehydration-

- c) How do you properly plan an activity that uses GPS? Include using the buddy system, sharing your plan with others, and considering the weather, route, and proper attire.

Requirement 2

Initial

Why should you never bury a cache?

How do you use proper geocaching etiquette when hiding or seeking a cache?

How do you properly hide, post, maintain, and dismantle a geocache?

What are the principles of Leave No Trace, and how do they apply to geocaching?

Requirement 3

Initial

Explain the following terms used in geocaching:

Waypoint-

Log-

Cache-

Accuracy-

Difficulty and terrain ratings-

Attributes-

Trackable-

Choose five additional terms to explain to your counselor.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Requirement 4

Initial

Explain how the Global Positioning System (GPS) works.

Then, using Scouting's Teaching EDGE, demonstrate the use of a GPS unit to your counselor. Include marking and editing a waypoint, changing field functions, and changing the coordinate system in the unit.

Requirement 5

Initial

Show you know how to use a map and compass. Why is this important for geocaching?

What are some similarities between GPS navigation and standard map reading skills?

What are some differences between GPS navigation and standard map reading skills?

Describe the benefits of both GPS navigation and standard map reading skills.

Explain the UTM (Universal Transverse Mercator) system and how it differs from the latitude/longitude system used for public geocaches.

Show how to plot a UTM waypoint on a map. Compare the accuracy to that found with a GPS unit

Requirement 6

Initial

What are the four steps to finding your first cache? *Describe them to your counselor

1.

2.

3.

4.

- Then mark and edit a waypoint, and show your counselor.

Requirement 7**Initial**

With your parent's permission*, go to www.geocaching.com. Type in your zip code to locate public geocaches in your area. Share the posted information about three of those geocaches with your counselor.

1.

2.

3.

Pick one of the three and find the cache. Which did you pick?

Did you find the cache?

Requirement 8**Initial**

Do ONE of the following:

If a Cache to Eagle® series exists in your council, visit at least three of the 12 locations in the series. Describe the projects that each cache you visit highlights:

1.

Project-

2.

Project

3.

Project

How does the Cache to Eagle® program help share our Scouting service with the public?

-OR- Create a Scouting-related Travel Bug® that promotes one of the values of Scouting.

"Release" your Travel Bug into a public geocache and, with your parent's permission, monitor its progress at www.geocaching.com for 30 days. Keep a log, and share this with your counselor at the end of the 30-day period.

OR- Set up and hide a public geocache, following the guidelines in the Geocaching merit badge pamphlet. Before doing so, share with your counselor a six-month maintenance plan for the geocache where you are personally responsible for the first three months.

After setting up the geocache, with your parent's permission, follow the logs online for 30 days and share them with your counselor.

-OR- What does Cache In Trash Out (CITO) mean?

How have you practiced CITO at public geocaches or at a CITO event?

Either create CITO containers to leave at public caches, or host a CITO event for your unit or for the public.

Requirement 9

Initial

Plan a geohunt for a youth group such as your troop or a neighboring pack, at school, or your place of worship. Which did you choose?

What theme will you use for this geohunt?

What four (or more) waypoints will you use to set up this course?

Teach the players how to use a GPS unit, and play the game. Tell your counselor about your experience, and share the materials you used and developed for this event.

Merit badge worksheets will not be accepted at the Council Office in place of the official Merit Badge Application Card. Those who do not complete all the requirements should take their partially completed merit badge worksheet and their official application card to their local merit badge counselors for completion.