



Show a young man a piece of machinery and he's sure to ask, "How does it work?" This month we will tap the inborn curiosity about mechanical operations for a program feature that is both fun and educational.

Virtually every object we use every day is a product of a machine. There are a tremendous variety of machines, but all of them operate on the same principles. Your Scouts will have a chance to get some insight into those principles.

Arrange for the Scouts to meet mechanics who can explain how machines work and how they are maintained. If possible, have them work on such machines as lawn mowers, auto engines, and bicycles. Have them also put their mechanical knowledge into action with some pioneering projects during the campout this month.

SCOUTING OUTCOMES

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

- An improvement of their skill in rope work.
- Some knowledge of mechanical operation.
- A better understanding of engineering.
- Growing self-confidence.

ADVANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

By the end of the month, all Scouts should have met the majority of their cooking requirements through First Class. Depending on the activities, they may also complete all or part of the following rank requirements:

Tenderfoot

- Outdoor—Cooking, hiking, camping, nature

- 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 Camping, Machinery, and Pioneering 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, and Wilderness Survival.

PARENT PARTICIPATION

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

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