



Science is a method of learning about the world by observation, study, and experimentation. We might say that Scouting is a science because that's the way Scouts learn.

In this program feature we will explore two scientific subjects, weather and energy. During troop meetings, Scouts will discover how to use weather signs. They will also learn about the importance of conserving energy sources.

Keep records of the weather this month and make periodic weather predictions. Also try some solar energy experiments or projects that might be used on a campout.

The big event will be a weather bivouac. Ask patrols to predict the weather for the bivouac as the date draws near. The highlight of the bivouac will be an adventure obstacle trail with problems patrols might have to solve in a hurricane.

**SCOUTING OUTCOMES**

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

- An appreciation of the wonders of nature and possibly a growing feeling of closeness to God.
- A greater understanding of how pollution affects the natural world and how Scouts can help to stop it.
- A strengthened resolve to do their "duty to country" through good conservation practices.
- Growing self-confidence.
- Basic knowledge for predicting weather.

**ADVANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

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

*Tenderfoot*

- Outdoor—Cooking, camping, hiking, nature
- Citizenship—Flag ceremonies
- Patrol/troop participation—Patrol identification
- Personal development—Scout Oath and Law

*Second Class*

- Outdoor—Cooking, camping, hiking, nature
- Citizenship—Flag ceremonies, Good Turn
- Patrol/troop participation—Patrol identification
- Personal development—Scout Oath and Law

*First Class*

- Outdoor—Cooking, camping, nature, hiking
- Citizenship—Flag ceremonies
- Patrol/troop participation—Patrol identification
- Personal development—Scout Oath and Law

*Merit Badges.* Older Scouts can concentrate on the Camping, Cooking, and Weather 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 Hiking, Backpacking, and Wilderness Survival merit badges.

**PARENT PARTICIPATION**

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

- Asking qualified parents to assist with instruction for energy/weather skills.
- Inviting parents on the campout.
- Asking parents to provide transportation to the campout.
- Having a family potluck dinner.