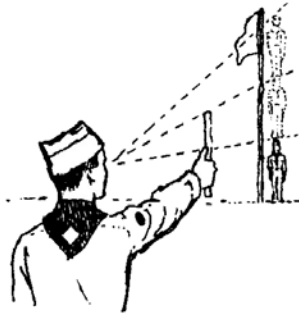


FIND YOUR WAY - TRACKING AND TRAILING

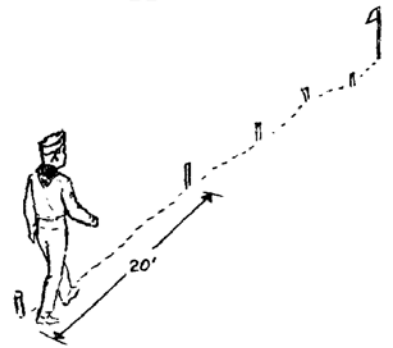


The "bug" method of laying out a compass on the ground is an easy way for a patrol to teach its members how to use the compass properly. The patrol leader places his compass on the flat top of a 3' or 4' stake. Guide by him patrol members locate other stakes about 10 steps away at north, south, etc., until the main compass directions are laid out.

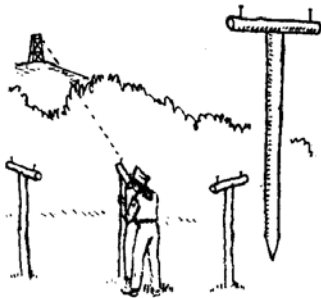
A scout can now pretend that he is a "bug" sitting in the middle of his compass looking out in all directions. Starting at the north, he sees how the compass is marked from 0 to 360 degrees in a clockwise direction, and that any object that he can see can be easily located by noting its direction in degrees from the center (or "bug" position) to the object.



Judging height and distance -- Troop leaders should know heights of specific objects trees, flagpole, towers, etc., around camp. The height of a person is related to the height of an object by using a stick as a sighting bar.



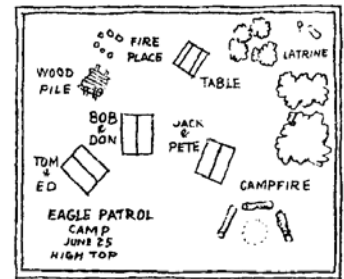
Lay out a step course -- Lay it out preferably on uneven ground along a trail in each troop site on in a central area of camp. Ask each Scout to determine and remember the exact number of steps he must take to travel 200 feet. It will take practice to become proficient.



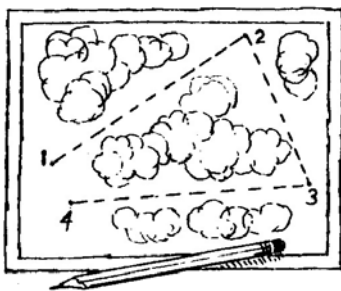
Mount sighting arrows on 4' stakes and arrange them so they point to various obvious landmarks. Make them permanent. The project is for each Scout to determine the objects and then using his compass find their exact degree readings.



Push a straight stick in to the ground in such a way that it does not cast a shadow -- that is, so it point directly towards the sun. Wait until the stick makes a shadow 6" or longer. The shadow forms an east-west line with the west at the stick and the east at the end of the shadow tip. From this you can figure other directions. This method is quite exact in the middle of the day and exact enough for your purposes at other times.



Map your campsite -- Make use of your compass techniques by mapping a specific area. Your campsite is a good place to start. This project will test your ability measure distances and angles accurately. Why not try it.



A three legged compass course -- Duplicate the course above. Mark out by driving spike into the ground at the extremities of the three legs. For clearer visibility, drive the spikes through the caps of small jars or soda bottle caps and then paint them different colors. Give the Scout the exact degrees and distance readings for the legs and then ask him to locate the right corners. Change locations from time to time.



Prepare a compass kit for troop use -- You may loan this kit to the troop in camp. Since only the extra paper and pencils are expendable, the items must be checked in on return. The kit contains: 12 or 15 compasses, 6 or 8 road maps 3 or 4 topographic maps, 2 or 3 protractors, pencils, extra paper, ruler, compass game, Boy Scout handbook, and Silva compass handbook. -- Be Expert with map and compass.



Know your trail signs -- Scout trail signs the world over are much the same. These trail signs can be set up in every type of terrain regardless of how primitive it may be and the experienced Scout will follow without fail. The last one over a marked trail should remove all Scout trail signs.