CLIMBING

“Enhancing our youths’ competitive edge through merit badges”
(b) Name at least five different types of governments currently in power in the world.

(c) Show on a world map countries that use each of these five different forms of government.

6. Do the following:

(a) Explain how a government is represented abroad and how the United States government is accredited to international organizations.

(b) Describe the roles of the following in the conduct of foreign relations.
   1. Ambassador
   2. Consul
   3. Bureau of International Information Programs
   4. Agency for International Development
   5. United States and Foreign Commercial Service

(c) Explain the purpose of a passport and visa for international travel.

7. Do TWO of the following (with your parent’s permission) and share with your counselor what you have learned:

(a) Visit the website of the U.S. State Department. Learn more about an issue you find interesting that is discussed on this website.

(b) Visit the website of an international news organization or foreign government, OR examine a foreign newspaper available at your local library, bookstore, or newsstand. Find a news story about a human right realized in the United States that is not recognized in another country.

(c) Visit with a student or Scout from another country and discuss the typical values, holidays, ethnic foods, and traditions practiced or enjoyed there.

(d) Attend a world Scout jamboree.

(e) Participate in or attend an international event in your area, such as an ethnic festival, concert, or play.

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**Climbing**

1. Do the following:

(a) Explain to your counselor the most likely hazards you may encounter while participating in climbing and rappelling activities and what you should do to anticipate, help prevent, mitigate, and respond to these hazards.

(b) Show that you know first aid for and how to prevent injuries or illnesses that could occur during climbing activities, including heat and cold reactions, dehydration, stopped breathing, sprains, abrasions, fractures, rope burns, blisters, snakebite, and insect bites or stings.

(c) Identify the conditions that must exist before performing CPR on a person.
2. Learn the Leave No Trace principles and Outdoor Code, and explain what they mean.

3. Present yourself properly dressed for belaying, climbing, and rappelling (i.e., appropriate clothing, footwear, and a helmet; rappellers can also wear gloves).

4. **Location.** Do the following:
   (a) Explain how the difficulty of climbs is classified, and apply classifications to the rock faces or walls where you will demonstrate your climbing skills.
   (b) Explain the following: top-roping climbing, lead climbing, and bouldering.
   (c) Evaluate the safety of a particular climbing area. Consider weather, visibility, the condition of the climbing surface, and any other environmental hazards.
   (d) Determine how to summon aid to the climbing area in case of an emergency.

5. **Verbal signals.** Explain the importance of using verbal signals during every climb and rappel, and while bouldering. With the help of the merit badge counselor or another Scout, demonstrate the verbal signals used by each of the following:
   (a) Climbers
   (b) Rappellers
   (c) Belayers
   (d) Boulderers and their spotters

6. **Rope.** Do the following:
   (a) Describe the kinds of rope acceptable for use in climbing and rappelling.
   (b) Show how to examine a rope for signs of wear or damage.
   (c) Discuss ways to prevent a rope from being damaged.
   (d) Explain when and how a rope should be retired.
   (e) Properly coil a rope.

7. **Knots.** Demonstrate the ability to tie each of the following knots. Give at least one example of how each knot is used in belaying, climbing, or rappelling.
   (a) Figure eight on a bight
   (b) Figure eight follow-through
   (c) Water knot
   (d) Double fisherman’s knot (grapevine knot)
   (e) Safety knot

8. **Harnesses.** Correctly put on a commercially made climbing harness.

9. **Belaying.** Do the following:
   (a) Explain the importance of belaying climbers and rappellers and when it is necessary.
   (b) Belay three different climbers ascending a rock face or climbing wall.
(c) Belay three different rappellers descending a rock face or climbing wall using a top rope.

10. **Climbing.** Do the following:
   
   (a) Show the correct way to directly tie into a belay rope.
   
   (b) Climb at least three different routes on a rock face or climbing wall, demonstrating good technique and using verbal signals with a belayer.

11. **Rappelling.** Do the following:
   
   (a) Using a carabiner and a rappel device, secure your climbing harness to a rappel rope.
   
   (b) Tie in to a belay rope set up to protect rappellers.
   
   (c) Rappel down three different rock faces or three rappel routes on a climbing wall. Use verbal signals to communicate with a belayer, and demonstrate good rappelling technique.

12. Demonstrate ways to store rope, hardware, and other gear used for climbing, rappelling, and belaying.

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**Coin Collecting**

1. Understand how coins are made and where the active U.S. Mint facilities are located.

2. Explain these collecting terms:
   
   (a) Obverse
   
   (b) Reverse
   
   (c) Reeding
   
   (d) Clad
   
   (e) Type set
   
   (f) Date set

3. Explain the grading terms Uncirculated, Extremely Fine, Very Fine, Fine, Very Good, Good, and Poor. Show five different grade examples of the same coin type. Explain the term *proof* and why it is not a grade. Tell what encapsulated coins are.

4. Know three different ways to store a collection, and describe the benefits, drawbacks, and expense of each method. Pick one to use when completing requirements.

5. Do the following:
   
   (a) Demonstrate to your counselor that you know how to use two U.S. or world coin reference catalogs.
   
   (b) Read a numismatic magazine or newspaper and tell your counselor about what you learned.
Climbing Resources

**Scouting Literature**
*Deck of Knots; Basic Illustrated Knots for the Outdoors; Boy Scout Handbook; Project COPE manual; Climb On Safely; and Topping Out: A BSA Climbing/Rappelling Manual*

For more information about or to order Scouting-related resources, visit [http://www.scoutstuff.org](http://www.scoutstuff.org) (with your parent’s permission).

**Instruction and Guidebooks**


History and Biography

Periodicals
Climbing Magazine
2520 55th St., Suite 210
Boulder, CO 80302
Telephone: 303-625-1600
Website: http://www.climbing.com

Organizations and Online Resources
Mountain Project
2525 Arapahoe Ave. #E4-715
Boulder, CO 80302
Website: http://www.mountainproject.com