Cache In: Geo-caching!

Learn about and experience using an electronic device to locate your position on the planet then play a high tech game of treasure hunt!

Brownie Try-It complete numbers 1, 2 & 3 plus 1 additional requirement of your choice. Junior Badge complete numbers 1, 2 & 3 plus 3 additional requirements of your choice. Cadette/Senior IPP complete numbers 1, 2, & 3 plus 7 additional requirements of your choice.

- 1. Find out what G.P.S. stands for. How does it work? What do they cost and where can you get one?
- 2. What is Geo-caching? How is the word pronounced? What are some other terms used for geo-caching?
- 3. Before going geo-caching you should visit www.geocaching.com or a similar website to learn about the sport and to find geo-caches in your area. Before doing this requirement, complete the cyberspace pledge form found below.

Cyberspace Safety Pledge

Traveling though cyberspace can be fun, but like any trip you take you have to "Be Prepared" for unforeseen things. So, read this before you go any further. Then discuss it with your parent or guardian.

- I will not give out personal information such as may address, telephone number, parents'/guardians' work address/telephone number, or the name and location of my school without my parents'/guardians' permission.
- I will tell an adult right away if I come across any information that makes me feel uncomfortable.
- I will never agree to get together with someone I "meet" online without first checking with me parents/guardians. If my parents/guardians agree to the meeting, I will be sure that it is in a public place ad bring my parent or guardian along.
- I will never send a person my picture or anything else without first checking with my parents/guardians.
- I will not respond to any messages that are mean or in any way make me feel uncomfortable. It is not my fault if I get a message like that. If I do I will tell my parents/guardians right away so that they can contact the online service.
- I will talk with my parent/guardians so that we can set up rules for going online. We will decide upon the time of day that I can be online, the length of time I can be online, and appropriate areas for me to visit. I will not access other areas or break these rules with out their permission.

Girl Name	Date
Parent/Guardian	Date

- 4. Learn about 4 of the things listed below:
 - a) What is a cache box?
 - b) Travel bugs
 - c) What things do you need for geo-caching?
 - d) Geo-caching rules
 - e) CITO
 - f) Waypoints
 - g) Muggles (as related to geocaching)
- 5. Learn how to use a GPS unit. Find someone you know who has used one before or follow the instructions that come with the unit. After visiting the website for geo-caching, locate a cache near you. Enter the coordinates into your unit and go find the cache!
- 6. Sometimes people list clues to the caches location, but the clues are encrypted.
 Use the decryption key below to decode the message then use the same decryption key to write your own coded message.

Decryption Key:

Decryption Rey.											_		
- (Δ	R	С	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L_	M
ı	Λ.							 			7.7	37	7
	N	0	P	10	R	S	T	U	V	W	Χ	Υ	L

The letter above equals the letter below and vice versa

Example: F=S, W=J, M=Z

NER LBH ERNQL SBE N UVTU GRPU FPNIRATRE UHAG?

- 7. Many geo-cachers leave behind a signature card. Create your own business card sized signature card to leave behind in a cache.
- 8. Create your own cache box and hide it, but be sure to record the coordinates for it so it can be found later. With an adult follow the directions included with the G.P. S. unit to enter the coordinates of your new cache box.

To make your own cache box, you will need:

- 1. A tight sealing plastic container (like a Rubbermaid container, or ice cream pail).
- 2. A small notepad and a couple of pens so that the people who find your cache can log their visit. Put these items in a Ziplock bag to keep them dry.
- 3. A few small toys, trinkets, key chains, or swaps.
- 9. Learn about latitudes and longitudes, they are very important for GPS units. One goes around the world east to west, and the other goes around the world north to south. Find out which is which!
- 10. Locate a geo-cache association in your area. Talk with members about their experiences, ex. favorite, most unique, most difficult to find.
- 11. List 4 occupations that use GPS in different ways. Example: Ambulance Service
- 12. List some safety precautions you should use when geo-caching. Find out where geo-caching is not allowed.