

## Communicating with Adults

### Friday Presentation

Ask troop member the following:

1. Have you ever had good ideas that your Scoutmaster wouldn't listen to? (get examples)
2. Do any of you get the feeling that your adult leaders never listen to you?
3. Have any of you had any successes in getting adults to pay attention to your ideas?
4. Do you have the same problems with parents, teachers, other adults.

Explain: we're going to develop some ideas to help us improve the effectiveness of our communications with adults.

#### Communications Bottlenecks

Each patrol has 10 minutes to list the reasons adults tend not to listen to Scout-aged boys.

Reassemble troop and list answers. Discuss each answer.

#### Opening Bottlenecks

You know have 15 minutes to prepare a list of ideas for improving communications between Scouts and Leaders

Reassemble troop and list answers. Discuss each answer.

#### Hints for Working with adults

Principal goal is gain the respect of the adult by constant responsible actions. Patience and courtesy help a lot.

Deal in solutions, not problems. Most people know the problem they need help solving them.

Think before speaking. Be sure the brain is engaged before the mouth is put in gear. Timing is vital. Be sensitive to moods and priorities of adults and figure out when they will be most receptive to your ideas then act.

#### Use Common Courtesy

Mr. Mrs, Please Thank you  
appeal to adults and are good manners

Make the adult think the idea was his  
(This work well on your peers). A good fisherman knows to present the bait, to  
attract the fish If you lay the bait of an idea in the right spot at the right  
time. your leader will snap it up and you'll have him hooked.

Never, Never Never, say

At White Stag we did it this way.

Hold discuss with scouts on problems with communicating with adults. Aim at positive  
attitudes and constructive approaches.

Last 5 minutes:

Have participants write in notebook 5 techniques he will personally use to improve  
communications with adults.