



Military Heritage

Our United States Armed forces are divided into five branches, regulated by Congress and set up to provide protection for our country through many different avenues. Great honor and respect is due these men and women that have placed their country before their comfort.

Name _____

Do all of the following requirements (1-5)

- ____1. Name five branches of the United States Armed Forces. Research and describe what they do, when they were created, how they protect our country, and how they are different in their specialties.
- ____2. Name the three military academies in the United States, when they were created, where they are located, and which branch of the service they represent. List some notable graduates from each and their future military accomplishments.
- ____3. Define conscription and tell of at least three times in U.S. history that it was used and what the criteria were at each individual time.
- ____4. Describe the federal Posse Comitatus Act, and explain why it is important.
- ____5. List all the National Holidays relating to military service and explain their origins and observances.

Do four of the following optional requirements (6-24) with at least one from the first category:

The Military Experience (Do at least one)

- ____6. Accompanied by your parent, visit with a recruiter from one of the five branches of military. Find out the requirements for entrance and describe them to your Mentor.
- ____7. Interview an active duty or retired member of the military. Find out why they enlisted or if they were conscripted, what they expected to get out of the experience, and how the reality varied from their expectations.

Honoring Veterans

- ____8. Honor a veteran or active military person, family or group with a service project. For example, sending care packages to Troops overseas or adopting a military family during the holidays.
- ____9. Participate in a Veterans Day or Memorial Day ceremony or parade.
- ____10. Describe the origin of Arlington National Cemetery and its current sacred duty.
- ____11. Describe the GI Bill and its importance.

Military History

- ____12. Visit a National Battlefield; be able to tell who won, how long the battle lasted and any notable soldiers that fought there.
- ____13. Visit Gettysburg National Military Park; explain the terrain and how seeing it in person helped you to understand the Union winning the battle and making it the turning point of the Civil War.
- ____14. Plan a family trip following the Civil War Trails. Document the battlefields and historic sites you stop at.
- ____15. Visit a military museum and describe what you learned.
- ____16. Research the origin of at least one military song (hymn).
- ____17. Choose a famous patriot who died in battle. Give a brief history of his life and career to your troop.
- ____18. Many people who have a hard time choosing a good path for their life turn to the military. Ulysses S. Grant was a great example of this. Tell about his early life and how his later life contrasted with its beginnings.
- ____19. Attend a battle reenactment (e.g. Civil War reenactments) and describe what you saw.

Military Operations and Strategy

- ____20. Learn and list the differences between officers and non-commissioned officers. Select a branch of military service and learn the ascending order of rank and how the rank is displayed on their uniform.
- ____21. Catalog the transportation vehicles used in one of the five branches of military (e.g. tanks, planes, submarines).
- ____22. Plan a military strategy session ending in a game of capture the flag using your plan. Describe what worked, what did not, and what improvements in strategy could be used the next time.
- ____23. Compare the Armor of God to the implements used in battle. Which do you think is the most crucial?
- ____24. Participate in a battle reenactment (e.g. Civil War reenactments) and describe your role in the overall battle strategy.

Trail Badge Mentor Signature

Date

Copyright © 2018 by Trail Life USA. All rights reserved. As an owner of The Trailman's Handbook AND a registered member of Trail Life USA you may only print portions of this Trail Badge for your own personal use in Trail Life USA. No part of this publication may otherwise be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, scanning, or otherwise, without either the prior written permission of Trail Life USA or authorization through payment of an appropriate per-copy fee.