



SCOUT WEEK 2021

AT THE NATIONAL WWII MUSEUM



ACTIVITY GUIDE

SATURDAY 1/23/2021 – SUNDAY 1/31/2021 | 9 A.M. – 5 P.M., DAILY

SCOUT WEEK 2021 AT THE NATIONAL WWII MUSEUM

Saturday 1/23/2021 – Sunday 1/31/2021 | 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., daily

In partnership with National Scout Organizations, Scout Week offers low-cost access to The National WWII Museum campus along with educational activities for Scout participants of all levels. This dedicated program has been expanded to allow ample space and time to explore the Museum exhibitions and engage in activities aligned with WWII-era history, designed just for scouts! Special pricing on our Museum Campus Pass will be offered to Scouts and their families all week long.

WELCOME TO SCOUT WEEK!

During World War II, a lot was happening here in the United States. Soldiers were not the only people affected by the war. While millions of American soldiers were fighting battles in far-off places like Germany, Italy, and the Pacific Ocean, tens of millions of women and men here in America supported the effort in other vital ways.

Many men and women worked at factories to produce the weapons, uniforms, and equipment we needed to fight and win the war. Children, including Scout groups, collected scrap metal, rubber, and grease to be recycled into tanks, tires, and gunpowder. And everyone had to live with less—less food; less gasoline; less traveling; and fewer tires, shoes, and clothing.

Through courage, optimism, sacrifice, and teamwork, people on the Home Front pulled together and worked hard to make sure that the Allies would win the war.

The National WWII Museum recognizes and celebrates the contributions of people on the Home Front, including Scouts!

Follow along in this Activity Guide as you explore the Museum exhibits to learn about World War II and how Scouts your age assisted with the war effort! We encourage you to wear your Scouting uniform when you visit the Museum so you can identify other Scouts who are participating as well.

DOING YOUR PART

When you are at the Museum, please adhere by these rules to help keep everyone safe during the pandemic. Just as in World War II, we are all in this together!

- Reserve your timed tickets in advance.
- Practice physical distancing by maintaining a distance of six feet or greater between you and other visitors.
- Please wear your face mask / covering at all times.
- Limit what you touch, wash your hands, and use sanitizer often!



MUSEUM GUIDE

Use this listing to help guide your experience of the Museum and the Scout activities!

Louisiana Memorial Pavilion

- Ticketing and Check-in: Did you pre-register for Scout Week tickets for you and your family? Come to our ticketing desk to check in! Forget your add-on ticket for our *Beyond All Boundaries* 4-D experience? Get them here!
- You will also receive a barcode imprinted “dog tag” that will allow you to follow the journey of an actual participant in the war.
- *The Arsenal of Democracy*: Learn about the events that led to the United States’ involvement in World War II, and see what life on the Home Front was like for civilians.
- *Normandy Gallery*: Learn about the top-secret Allied invasions of Normandy’s beaches during D-Day.
- Plane Spotting: Look out for part of your scavenger hunt here!
- Write a Veteran: Find this activity near the admissions desk, and be sure to drop your letter off in the box before you leave!
- Museum Store: Location near the main entrance to purchase souvenirs. National WWII Museum patches are available.

Solomon Victory Theater

- *US Merchant Marines*: Learn about the civilian merchant mariners who risked their lives transporting weapons, men, and materials to US troops overseas.
- *Beyond All Boundaries*: A 4-D journey through the war that changed the world! Tickets for this additional experience can be purchased at any admissions or ticketing desk throughout the Museum.
- Museum Store: Location on the first floor across from the *Beyond All Boundaries* experience.
- The American Sector: Food and beverages available at this in-house restaurant.

Campaigns of Courage Pavilion

- *The Road to Berlin*: This pavilion full of immersive environments tells the stories of the Allied advances on the European Fronts—in North Africa, Italy, and Germany.
- *The Road to Tokyo*: This pavilion full of immersive environments tells the stories of the Allied advances on the Pacific Fronts—in China, Burma, and Japan.
- Plane Spotting: Look out for part of your scavenger hunt here!

Hall of Democracy

- *Ghost Army: The Combat Con Artists of World War II*: This special exhibition tells the story of the U.S. Army’s 23rd Headquarters Special Troops and their deception operations across Europe. Features artifacts such as artwork, uniforms, and inflatable tank, and more.
- Code School: Find this activity in your guide, and see if you can complete it before leaving the Hall of Democracy! Listen for the sound of Morse Code throughout the Ghost Army exhibit.
- Museum Store: Location on the first floor with kid-friendly souvenirs and Ghost Army paraphernalia!

U.S. Freedom Pavilion: The Boeing Center

- Main Atrium: View and learn more about the Museum’s collection of WWII-era war birds.
- Medal of Honor Wall & Interactives: Take time to explore touch-screen stories about Medal of Honor recipients, look at battle maps, or listen to some oral histories of WWII veterans.
- Propaganda Poster Photobooth: Stop by and take a selfie in front of our WWII-era propaganda posters! Make sure to tag [@wwiimuseum](https://www.instagram.com/wwiimuseum) and use the [#ScoutWeek2021](https://www.instagram.com/ScoutWeek2021) hashtag.
- Plane Spotting: Look out for part of your scavenger hunt here!

BADGE FULFILLMENT OPPORTUNITIES

If you are interested in taking steps to earn a badge while you are at The National WWII Museum today, the activity guide provides a suggested place to start! However, the fulfillment of each badge is entirely under the discretion of your Troop Leader. If these activities fulfill another set of badge requirements, please feel free to utilize them!

ACTIVITY GUIDE

In-Gallery Activities

1. CODE SCHOOL

- Top secret agencies like the CIA and FBI were developed during World War II. Correspondence was often sent using secret codes and ciphers to make sure spies or undercovers couldn't detect important military strategies. Try your hand at Pigpen Cipher and Caesar Cipher! Decode our secret message, and send one to someone in your troop!
- **Girl Scouts Junior: Legacy / Naturalist**
 - + Flowers: Send a message in flower code! Many flowers are symbols that send a specific message when you send them. Utilize your newly honed skills towards this badge.
- **Cub Scout: Wolf**
 - + Howling at the Moon: Learn Pigpen Cipher and Caesar Cipher to show you can communicate in at least two different ways!



2. WRITE A VETERAN TABLE

- Write a letter to a veteran, and thank them for their service! Drop it off in one of the boxes located by our Admission Desk. We will send your letter to a veteran on your behalf.
- **Girl Scouts: Daisy**
 - + Zinni Petal: Show your care and appreciation by sharing your thanks with a veteran.
- **Cub Scout: Bear**
 - + Paws for Action (Duty to Country): While you are at the Museum, learn about two famous Americans who helped with the war effort; then write to one of our hero veterans, and thank them!

3. PLANE SPOTTING

- Go on a scavenger hunt that will take you through the Louisiana Memorial Pavilion, The Road to Tokyo, and The US Freedom Pavilion: the Boeing Center. Locate all of the pictured planes, and learn the WEFT method!
- **Girl Scouts Senior: Legacy / Naturalist**
 - + Sky: Look up, and explore the connection between people and flight! Learn about the Wing Scouts program that was designed for older Girl Scouts interested in aviation—introduced in 1941 after the bombing of Pearl Harbor.
- **Cub Scout: Wolf**
 - + Air of the Wolf: After you complete the Plane Spotting Scavenger Hunt, put your skills to the test! Make a paper airplane, and fly it five times. Try to make it fly farther by altering its shape. Fly it at least five more times to see if your changes were effective.

Share-With-Us Activities

1. Take a selfie at our Propaganda Poster Photobooth, and share it on social media! Be sure to tag @wwiimuseum, and use the #ScoutWeek2021 hashtag.

- **Girl Scouts Ambassador: Legacy / Artist**

- + Photographer: Tell a story with your photography! What are these propaganda posters trying to communicate? How can we communicate similarly through our own photographs?

- **Cub Scout: Webelos**

- + Art Explosion: Go view the Trench Art exhibition. Afterwards, visit the Propaganda Poster Photobooths to see other types of artwork that were commonly circulated throughout the United States during the war. Discuss with an adult the art you saw and what you liked.

2. Learn how to finger knit at home; then bring us your creation as part of our Knit Your Bit program! Once you create a full-sized scarf and drop it off at the Museum, we will mail it to a veteran to help keep warm this winter.

- **Girl Scouts Brownie**

- + Philanthropist: Help someone in need, and give back by participating in our Knit Your Bit Program. This will help earn your badge!

- **Cub Scout: Wolf**

- + Hometown Heroes: Learn how to finger knit with your family or den. Honor veterans by participating in our Knit Your Bit program, and send in your knitted scarf along with a note thanking them for their service.

At Home Activities

1. Victory Garden Tasting Stations with the Southern Food and Beverage Museum

- Have you been through the Arsenal of Democracy exhibition yet? If so, you already know that during World War II the US government encouraged Americans to plant their own Victory Gardens so more food would be available to send overseas. Both soldiers and those who remained on the home front had to eat what was available to them—whether they liked it or not! Let's do a blind taste test, learn some new descriptors for tasting, and see if you can discover what you are eating.

- **Girl Scouts Cadette: Legacy / Cook**

- + New Cuisines: Take it a step further, and create a dish from one of the new ingredients you tasted.

- **Cub Scout: Bear**

- + Fur, Feathers, and Ferns: Plant a vegetable or herb garden like the Victory Gardens in World War II, and try to incorporate new ingredients into your palette!

2. We're All in This Together: Rag Dolls

- During the war, civilians were asked to help with the war efforts by rationing food and other goods, but also by recycling their scraps. This included things like tires, metal, old clothing, and newspapers. Scraps were transformed into totally different items, and recycling is still very important today! Because materials were being rationed during World War II, toy production came to a halt. Kids had to be creative and use their imaginations with what was available to create fun out of everyday items! Make a ragdoll using upcycled materials found at home and give new life to an old piece of clothing. Don't forget to ask permission from your parent before you get started, and make sure what you are re-purposing is OK with them.

- **Girl Scouts: Daisy**

- + Clover Petal: Learn how to use resources wisely to earn this petal!

- **Cub Scout: Tiger**

- + Floats and Boats: Learn about scrapping during the wartime, and then build a boat using only recycled materials. Float it on the water!

3. Signal Flags

- Back before cellphones, video, and even radio communications, ships at sea used maritime signal flags to communicate with other ships! Flags were assigned meaning or stood for letters of the alphabet. Make a flag set of your name, and hang it up in your room!

- **Girl Scouts Brownie: Legacy / Citizen**

- + Celebrating Community: To help earn this badge, learn about and explore these community symbols used internationally in the maritime community.

- **Cub Scout: Tiger**

- + Curiosity, Intrigue, and Magical Mysteries: These maritime signal flags were used as ways to communicate with other ships, regardless of country of origin! Those who are hearing and sight impaired must also use different ways of communication. Spell your name using sign language, and spell your name in Braille.

STEM Activities

The National WWII Museum is partnering with a Pontchartrain Conservancy program, *Facilitating Environmental Education for the Basin*, for Scout Week 2021. We will be hitting on three major themes of the program: "Climate Science," "Community and the Coast," and "Lagniappe."

Please visit <https://scienceforourcoast.org/pc-programs/education/community-programs/> to participate in the following activities! You will find videos with accompanying materials, such as worksheets or guides, that you can follow along with.

Tune in on Saturday, January 23 from 1:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. for a live broadcast of the educator-led session, Ecosystems of the Pontchartrain Basin. Ask questions through Zoom or on the National WWII Museum's Facebook live!

1. Ecosystems of the Pontchartrain Basin: Discovering Diverse Landscapes in Southern Louisiana

- During World War II, troops traversed many diverse landscapes across the globe. To best prepare for surviving these different areas, they had to learn how to differentiate between and properly identify what they were encountering. What is the difference between a saline, brackish, and freshwater marsh? Would you find a raccoon in a brackish marsh? In this lab, participants will create model ecosystems, compare and contrast two ecosystems, and discover the consequences of the loss of a species for an ecosystem.
- Live virtual program! The broadcast will still be available after for those who cannot attend on January 23.

- **Girl Scouts Brownies: Legacy / Naturalist**

- + Bugs: Explore the ecosystems we live in and what types of bugs call this place home! Earn towards your badge by participating in this activity.

- **Cub Scout: Bear**

- + Fur, Feathers, and Ferns: Participate in the live session with the Pontchartrain Conservancy, and ask about an animal that has become extinct in this environment in the last 100 years and one animal that is currently endangered. What caused their declines?

2. Land Loss and Restoration: Evaluating Challenges and Solutions for Coastal Louisiana

- As you might know, many wars, including World War II, have been fought over the loss and gain of land. In our very own backyard here in Louisiana, scientists are fighting everyday to reclaim our coast from being swallowed by the gulf. Why is Louisiana losing land? How can we save our coast? In this lab, participants will explore the causes of land loss, use a stream model to simulate a variety of land loss scenarios, and become decision-makers in an impact-based land loss game.

- **Girl Scouts Junior: Legacy / Citizen**

- + Inside Government: Now that you've learned more about the challenges facing Coastal Louisiana, practice being an active citizen, and work toward this badge, by writing a letter to your senator voicing your concerns!

- **Cub Scout: Wolf**

- + Council Fire (Duty to Country): Learn about the changes and challenges facing the Coastal Louisiana community. Present to your den your ideas for a solution to this problem.

3. Multiple Lines of Defense: Exploring Louisiana Coastal Protections

- In World War II, soldiers were trained to be prepared to defend our nation and homes. Similarly, every year we need to prepare ourselves as citizens against hurricanes and other natural disasters. Aside from personal

protections, there are other larger systems in place to defend ourselves from large storms. Is coastal Louisiana prepared for the next big hurricane? What constructed and natural defenses are used to mitigate the effects of storm surge? In this lab, participants will construct a model town and propose and build ways to protect it from an imminent hurricane. In the aftermath of the storm, participants will evaluate the effectiveness of their protections and uncover current strategies to protect coastal Louisiana.

- **Girl Scouts Cadette: Legacy / Citizen**

- + **Finding Common Ground:** Construct your model town with your troop, and practice civil debate, compromise, and making decisions as a group. Work toward this badge by finding common ground.

- **Cub Scout: Wolf**

- + **Call of the Wild:** After learning about coastal protections during hurricanes, demonstrate what you would do in case of a natural disaster.

4. Hydrological Modifications: Using Technology to Manage Waterways

- Tons of new technology was developed and used during World War II! This ranges from big projects like the Manhattan Project all the way down to the invention of the Higgins Industries boats used in amphibious operations in both the European and Pacific Theaters. People today are still inventing and using technology to help improve our daily life—especially in environments more prone to climate change, such as Louisiana. What are hydrological modifications? How do we use them to manage waterways? In this lab, participants will be challenged to solve a water management scenario. Scouts will discover a variety of methods to manage waterways and will debate stakeholder perspectives. The final challenge will be to design, build, and test possible solutions to the scenario.

- **Girl Scouts Ambassador: Legacy / Naturalist**

- + **Water:** Reflect on our relationship with water, discuss water issues, and explore potential solutions to earn towards this badge.

- **Cub Scout: Webelos**

- + **Build It:** After learning about hydrological modification, think about what tools are used to help manage waterways. Learn about some basic tools and the proper use of each tool. Learn about and understand the need for safety when you work with tools.

**Pontchartrain
Conservancy**

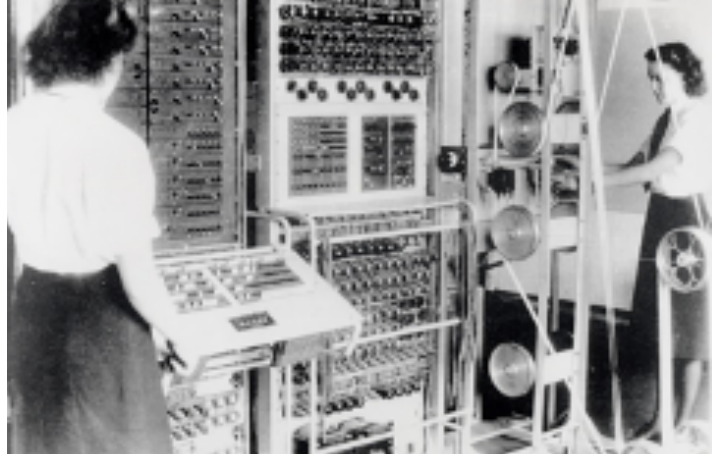


CODE SCHOOL

Top secret agencies like the CIA and FBI in the United States, as well as MI6 in the United Kingdom, were developed during World War II. Operatives from these agencies were trained in foreign languages, self-defense, disguise, and many other skills. Some spies even worked undercover within the Axis forces to learn about their top-secret military strategies. Correspondence was often sent using secret codes and ciphers like Morse Code.

DIRECTIONS:

1. Come up with an alias so only others in your troop can identify you.
2. Try your hand at the Pigpen Cipher by deciphering the code.
3. Then, write your name or alias in Pigpen.
4. Once you've perfected Pigpen, try Caesar Cipher, and write a secret message to send to someone in your troop!



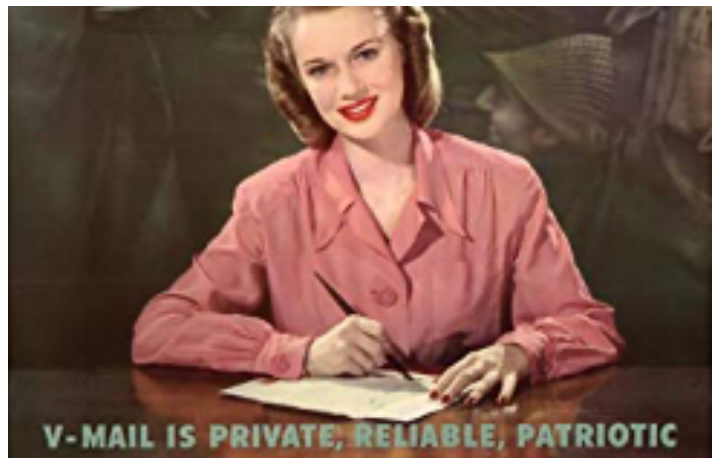
WRITE A VETERAN

Military personnel sacrifice many things when they answer the call of duty for their country. Many times these service men and women are called away from home for long periods of time and miss important moments. During World War II, civilians were encouraged to utilize V-Mail, a secure and efficient way to send mail to troops overseas.

Take a moment to show gratitude to our veterans and current military by writing a thank you note!

DIRECTIONS:

1. Take a piece of paper and a writing utensil.
2. Write a note, draw a picture, make a card, or choose another way to show your gratitude for veterans and their service.
3. Place your message in the box located near the Admissions Desk in the Louisiana Memorial Pavilion, and we will send these messages to Veterans around the United States.



PLANE SPOTTING

During the WWII years, civilian volunteers in the United States were recruited into the Aircraft Warning Service. These volunteers were trained to recognize both friendly and enemy aircraft so they'd be able to warn the military of enemies on the Home Front. The training was so popular that even children learned how to spot planes. One way people practiced their plane spotting skills was by using the W.E.F.T. (Wings-Engine-Fuselage-Tail) method. Follow along in the handout, and see if you can spot and identify all of the planes in the Museum galleries using this same method!

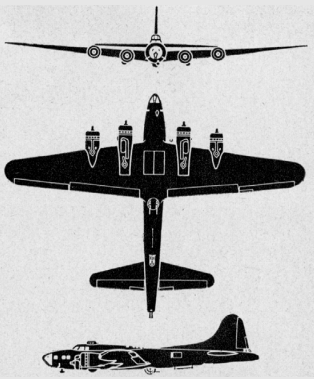
W.E.F.T. - Wings-Engine-Fuselage-Tail

Step 1: Locate each plane using the W.E.F.T. (Wings-Engine-Fuselage-Tail) method.

Step 2: Everyone has a name and so do these WWII airplanes. Write each plane's name under "Hello! My name is."

Step 3: Every plane has a purpose. Circle it!

Step 4: These airplanes are working the runway. Write their model names.

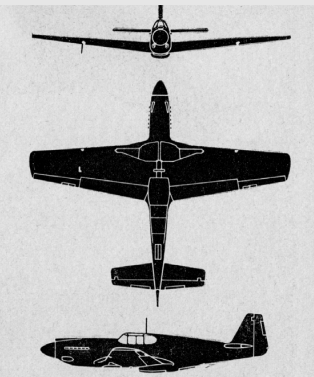


Hello! My name is:

This plane is a (circle one)

Fighter | Bomber
Transport | Scout

Model:

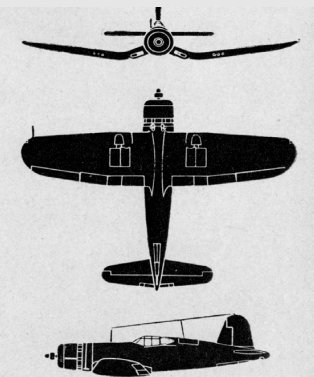


Hello! My name is:

This plane is a (circle one)

Fighter | Bomber
Transport | Scout

Model:

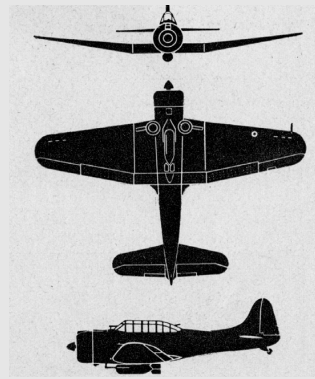


Hello! My name is:

This plane is a (circle one)

Fighter | Bomber
Transport | Scout

Model:

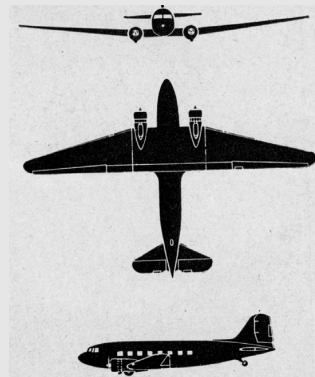


Hello! My name is:

This plane is a (circle one)

Fighter | Bomber
Transport | Scout

Model:

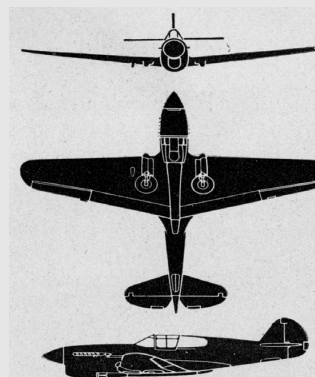


Hello! My name is:

This plane is a (circle one)

Fighter | Bomber
Transport | Scout

Model:



Hello! My name is:

This plane is a (circle one)

Fighter | Bomber
Transport | Scout

Model:

Visit the Louisiana Memorial Pavilion, *Campaigns of Courage: The Road to Tokyo*, and *The US Freedom Pavilion: The Boeing Center* to locate all of the planes pictured.

FINGER KNITTING

On the Home Front during World War II, knitting served as one more way Americans could support the war effort. The November 24, 1941, cover story of the popular weekly magazine Life even explained "How To Knit." Along with basic instructions and a pattern for a simple knitted vest, the article advised, "To the great American question 'What can I do to help the war effort?' the commonest answer yet found is 'Knit.'" Thousands of Americans picked up their needles to knit socks, mufflers, and sweaters to keep American soldiers warm and provide them with a handmade reminder of home.

DIRECTIONS:

1. Grab a bundle of yarn.
2. Follow the image instructions included in this guide.
3. Finger knit until your pattern reaches your desired length.
4. Proudly wear your new creation!

Want to take it one step further? Knit a scarf, and gift it to a veteran by participating in our Knit Your Bit program at The National WWII Museum.

More info on Knit Your Bit and how to get involved:

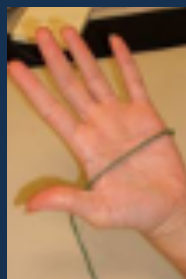
<https://www.nationalww2museum.org/programs/knit-your-bit>

Knitting patterns that you can try out at home:

<https://www.nationalww2museum.org/events-programs/public-programs/community-outreach/knit-your-bit/knit-your-bit-patterns>



1



2



3



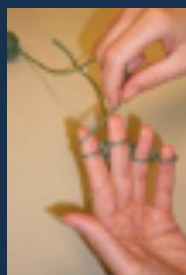
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5



6



7



FINGER KNITTING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Take a strand of yarn, and place it between your thumb and your index finger. Leave about six inches trailing behind your hand. Use your left hand if you are right-handed and your right hand if you are left-handed.

2. Loosely wrap the working end of the yarn over your index finger, under your middle finger, over your ring finger, and under your pinky.

3. Now loop that yarn around your pinky, and go back towards your thumb, but this time go over your pinky, under your ring finger, over your middle finger, and under your index finger.

4. Repeat steps 2 & 3.

5. You should have two layers of yarn on your fingers. The working yarn will be trailing between your middle and index fingers.

6. Lift the bottom yarn, over the top yarn and drop off of your hand starting with your pinky, then your ring finger, then your middle finger, and finally your index finger. It will seem a little loose, just pull the working yarn tighter (but not too tight—you have to be able to get it off your fingers!)

7. Grab the working yarn and repeat steps 2, 3, and 5.

8. Once your project has reached its desired length, you must bind off the stitches. On this last row, each finger should have only one loop on it. Lift off the loop on the pinky, and place it onto the ring finger.

On the ring finger, lift the bottom loop up and over the top loop and off the finger. Repeat for the middle finger and index finger. Once you have just one loop on the index finger, take it off, and pass the tail of the yarn through the loop, pulling it tight. Tie it off with a knot.



TASTING STATIONS

with the Southern Food and Beverage Museum

During World War II the US government encouraged Americans to plant their own Victory Gardens so more food would be available to send overseas. Both soldiers and those who remained on the Home Front had to eat what was available to them—whether they liked it or not!

We all get stuck in a rut saying things are good or bad, gross or yummy. Especially with foods we don't like, we might say they are gross, but that is not very kind to the people who took the time to make our food for us. To show care, we need to have courage! Be brave, and try new foods! It's okay to not like something, but we still need to be kind in the words we say and push ourselves to bravely try new foods.

We have four main taste areas on our tongue and each food we eat reacts with our taste buds in these areas differently. At each tasting station try and go beyond "good" or "bad." Use the taste synonyms below to help you come up with different answers to the question "what does it taste like?"

Directions: Print these two pages, and give your Scout a marker. On three plates, cut small pieces of unrecognizable food outside of their package and place enough on each plate for each Scout to try. You can put this all on one table or spread it out around the house like a scavenger hunt. Mark each place station #1, #2, #3. Scouts can either do the stations together or separately. At the end, ask them to share their answers!

STATION #1

What does it smell like? _____

What does it taste like? _____

What do you think it is? _____

STATION #2

What does it smell like? _____

What does it taste like? _____

What do you think it is? _____

STATION #3

What does it smell like? _____

What does it taste like? _____

What do you think it is? _____

Taste Synonyms:

Sour can be found in a lot of fruit candies and often in citrus like lemons and limes. It makes your mouth pucker.

SOUR SYNONYMS:

- Tart (sharp or acidic in taste)
- Vinegary (tastes like vinegar, or how vinegar smells)
- Acidic (has an sharp taste like citrus and makes your lips pucker)
- Cutting (sour is the main taste you get when you try it; it cuts through the other tastes in the food)
- Biting (the sour taste has a bite to it; it's the main taste you get after eating the food)

Bitter can be close to sour and can make your mouth pucker, but leaves it feeling dry. Common bitter foods are dark chocolate and black coffee.

BITTER SYNONYMS:

- Harsh (rough or jarring, it takes you aback and makes you straighten up in your chair and blink your eyes or maybe shake your head after you eat it).
- Acrid (like that taste in your mouth after you eat burnt food)
- Dry (leaves your mouth feeling like a desert after you eat/drink it)

Sweet tasting things are some of our favorites because our brains love what sugar makes us feel, even if our bodies do not. Sweet often makes you want more and makes your mouth water and feel wet after you eat it.

SWEET SYNONYMS:

- Syrupy (tastes thick and concentrated, like all of the sweetness is in one spot—like maple syrup or honey)
- Cloying (too sweet, and there is no relief from it from other ingredients in the food)
- Nectarous (makes your mouth water, juicy even if it's not fruit, it makes you feel like it's juicy like the middle of a plum)
- Decadent (it tastes over the top, fancy, and rich. Usually used with chocolate and creams that just melt in your mouth.)

Salty is also one of our favorite things; that is why it pairs so well with sweet things! Salty also makes our mouths water and can be as pleasant to our brains as sweet. The French say you either have a sweet tooth or a salt tooth.

SALTY SYNONYMS:

- Savory (leaves you wanting more; you savor it—usually the opposite of sweets/desserts, used with meat, breads, cheeses)
- Briny (like pickle juice, it tastes like liquid with a high salt content and few other flavors—salt is the main punch)
- Coarse (like salt on a pretzel, you can actually taste the feel of the granules or chunks of salt)

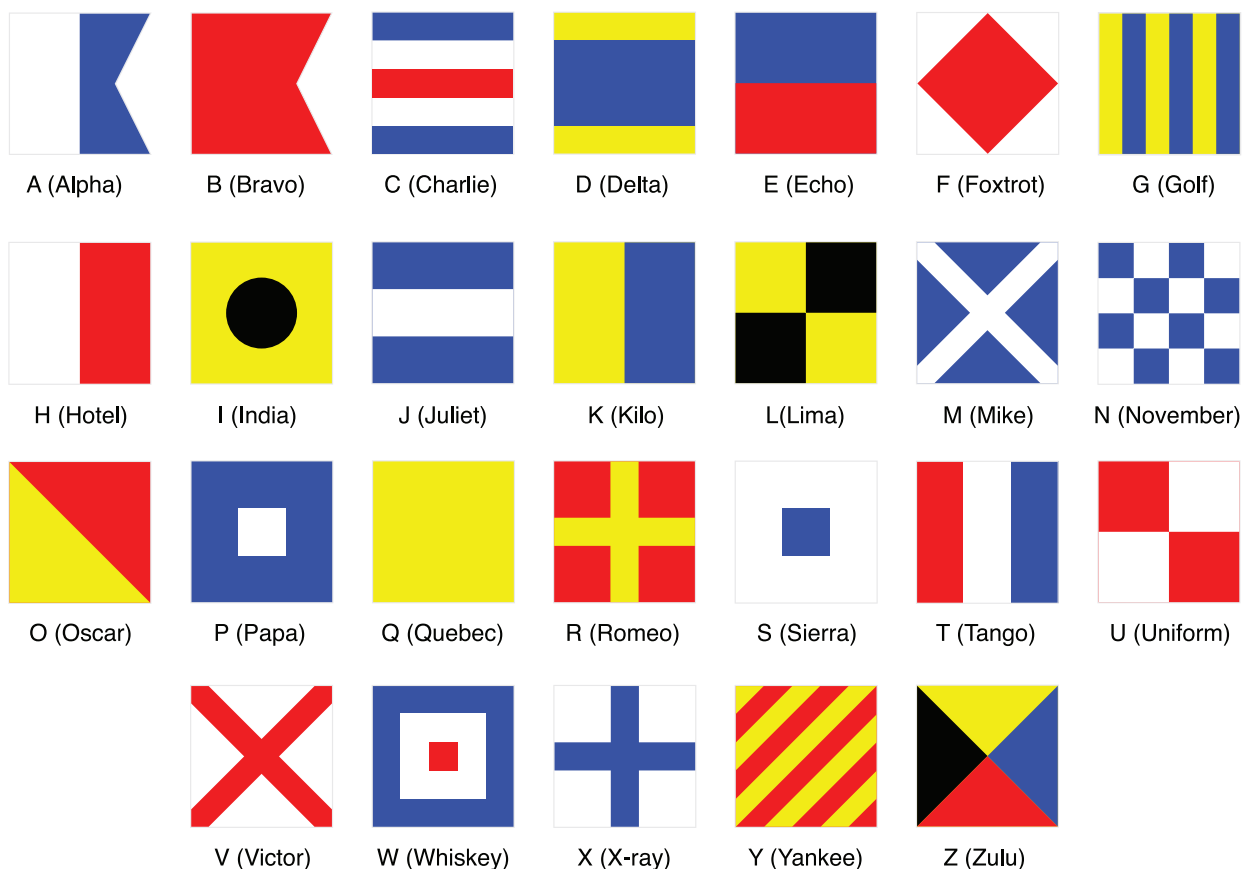
INTERNATIONAL MARITIME SIGNAL FLAGS

In the days before radio and video communications, ships at sea used these flags to communicate with other ships. Each flag stands for a letter of the alphabet. Each flag also has a specific meaning, such as "yes," "no," "I need assistance," or "you are running into danger." Even today, experienced mariners memorize these flags and often carry a set of them on board for a way to communicate in an emergency.

Can you spell out your name in Maritime Signal Flags?

DIRECTIONS:

1. Collect a piece of yarn and enough construction paper (or cardstock) equal to the number of letters in your name.
2. Fold each sheet of paper in half "hamburger style."
3. Study the signal flag letters that match the letters in your name.
4. Using crayons or markers, draw and color in the corresponding flag designs to match each letter in your name on the front of your folded papers.
5. Line up the flags to properly spell out your name.
6. One at a time, fold each flag over the piece of yarn and secure with tape.
7. Hang it up in your bedroom at home!



Codes in WWII

World War II lasted from 1939-1945. It was the largest war in history. The United States entered the war on December 7, 1941, when the Empire of Japan launched a surprise attack on the US naval fleet anchored at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. For the next three-and-a-half years, we fought against the Japanese, the Germans, and the Italians in places all over the world: in Europe, in North Africa, in China, in the Pacific Ocean, and in the Atlantic Ocean. More than 15 million Americans served in the military during that time. More than 400,000 were killed and many more were wounded. In the end, the United States and its allies, including Great Britain, Canada, Australia, and the Soviet Union, won the war.

We won the war by being strong—we trained hard; we fought hard; and we produced a lot of tanks, planes, ships, and bombs. But we also won by being smart. We used science to help us invent new technologies—like radar—to outsmart our enemies and new medicines—like penicillin—to help heal our wounded.

One of the ways we used our smarts to help us win the war was to invent and use codes to help us communicate secretly without our enemies understanding what we were saying. We also figured out ways to understand their secret codes—so we would know the secret stuff they were saying!

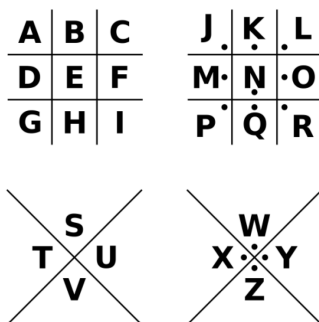
Here are just two examples of how code was used in World War II:

1. The Germans had a special code machine for communicating their secret war plans that we called Enigma. An enigma is a riddle that is very hard to figure out. If a person tried to decode a message encoded on an Enigma machine by him or herself, it would take hundred of years! But our British allies figured out how the machine worked and built a copy so we could decode secret German communications. From then on we were able to hear most of the secret German plans and react quickly to them.
2. The Japanese also used very complex codes to send their secret messages about their war plans. In the spring of 1942, US code breakers were able to trick the Japanese into revealing their plans for an attack in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. They did this by sending out false information for the Japanese to hear and then listened to their coded messages to see how that information altered their attack plans. The plan worked and the US Navy defeated a big part of the Japanese Navy at the Battle of Midway.

As the WWII story of codes and code breaking shows: sometimes being smart is just as important as being strong!

Let's put your code skills to the test and try out two types of Code, Pigpen Cipher and Caesar Cipher, by completing the activity below.

PIGPEN CIPHER



Decipher the code:



CAESAR CIPHER

Alphabet shifted over three letters
A = D

**Try writing a secret message
to someone in your troop:**

Try writing your name:



SCOUT WEEK 2021
AT THE NATIONAL WWII MUSEUM