



# Pathfinder Pathways...

A Publication of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference Pathfinders

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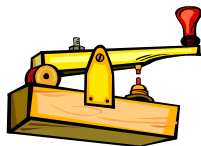
## Psalm 85:8

I will hear what God the LORD will say; For He will speak peace to His people, to His godly ones;

Back when the telegraph was the fastest method of long distance communication, a young man applied for a job as a Morse Code operator. Answering an ad in the newspaper, he went to the office that was listed. When he arrived, he entered a large, busy office filled with noise and clatter, including the sound of the telegraph in the background.

A sign on the receptionist's counter instructed job applicants to fill out a form and wait until they were summoned to enter the inner office. The young man filled out his form and sat down with the seven other applicants in the waiting area.

After a few minutes, the young man stood up, crossed the room to the door of the inner office, and walked right in. Naturally the other applicants perked up, wondering what was going on. They muttered among themselves that they hadn't heard any summons yet.



They assumed that the young man who went into the office made a mistake and would be disqualified.

Within a few minutes, however, the employer escorted the young man out of the office and said to the other applicants, "Gentlemen, thank you for coming, but the job has just been filled."

The other applicants began grumbling to each other, and one spoke up saying, "Wait a minute, I don't understand. He was the last to come in, and we never got a chance to be interviewed. Yet he got the job. That's not fair!"

The employer said, "I'm sorry, but the last several minutes while you've been sitting here, the telegraph has been ticking out the following message in Morse Code. 'If you understand this message, then come right in. The job is yours.' None of you heard it or understood it. This young man did. The job is his."

There is a lot of noise and clatter in our lives. Yet in the background, God is talking to us, constantly sending us His messages of love.

## Outreach Activity Ideas

Put together care packages for the families of patients in the ICU. Include items such as: lotion, toothbrush, toothpaste, snacks, bottled water, inspirational reading material, etc. Check with the hospitals to find out the best way to distribute such items and for items that would be most appreciated.

## Honor Toolbox

### Geology or Rocks & Minerals



When doing research for the geology and the rocks & minerals honors it becomes clear that in

some areas they cross over quite a bit so you might want to consider teaching them together. Here is a quite a number of ideas that you can use to make teaching the honors more interesting.



Georgia is amazingly rich in mineral resources. You may not know it, but before there was a California Gold Rush, there was a gold rush in Georgia! Check out the Dalhousie Gold Museum.

[North Georgia's Gold Rush](#)

The Weinman Mineral Museum is the museum that always ROCKS! It has recently changed to become the Tellus - Northeast Georgia Science Museum. It has one of the largest collections of gems, minerals, and fossils in the southeast. Special exhibits include a simulated mine tunnel (where minerals glow-in-the-dark), displays on Georgia minerals and mining, birthstones and gold! The museum's collection includes an international collection of gems and minerals. Many temporary exhibits are scheduled throughout the year. Outdoor exhibits and activities include: antique mining equipment, rock garden, panning for gemstones and gold, and digging for fossils! <http://www.weinmanmuseum.org/>

### Do minerals produce the colors in fireworks?

Mineral elements provide the color in fireworks. Barium produces bright greens; strontium yields deep reds; copper produces blues; and sodium yields yellow. Other

colors can be made by mixing elements; strontium and sodium produce brilliant orange; Titanium, zirconium, and magnesium alloys make silvery white; copper and strontium make lavender. Gold sparks are produced by iron filings and small pieces of charcoal. Bright flashes and loud bangs come from aluminum powder.

Check out the USGS website for more information on minerals.

[http://www.usgs.gov/faq/list\\_faq\\_by\\_category/get\\_answer.asp?id=94](http://www.usgs.gov/faq/list_faq_by_category/get_answer.asp?id=94)

Who knew that geology could have current events? For example: the impact of the California wildfires on wildlife. Scientists are studying the impact of the change in geology on the animals.

<http://geology.com/news/>

### Fun Facts Related to Mineral Resources

#### Tennessee Landforms -

<http://www.cs.utk.edu/~dunigan/landforms/>

This site has GPS waypoints (latitude/longitude WGS84) and maps to interesting landforms in Tennessee. Some of these landforms are on private property, get permission first. Other formations are difficult to access because they are off-trail.



#### Geology Day

February 16 – Providence Canyon State Park

#### Backcountry Geology Hike

Sweetwater Creek State Park – Jan 13

[Ducktown Basin Museum](#) – Burra Burra Mine

[Rockhounding - Graves Mountain, GA](#)

[Georgia Mineral Society](#)

<http://www.rockhoundingar.com/geology/fault.html>

#### Geology Illustrations

<http://www.rockhoundingar.com/geology/geopics.html>

#### USGS Frequently Asked Questions

[http://www.usgs.gov/faq/list\\_faq\\_by\\_category/get\\_questions\\_for\\_category.asp?category\\_id=10](http://www.usgs.gov/faq/list_faq_by_category/get_questions_for_category.asp?category_id=10)

**Geology Merit Badge** – this site is not officially sponsored by the Boy Scouts but has information and resources that pertain to the Pathfinder Geology and the Rocks & Minerals honor.

<http://geologymeritbadge.com/index.html>

Are there gem mines in Tennessee? Yes, but many of them are tourist attractions that seed buckets (add stones from several locations, including outside the US) so that

visitors are able to "find something". But they can still be fun, depending on what you're looking to find.

#### Rockhound Club Web Sites –

<http://www.mtgms.org/clubs.htm>

<http://www.teachers.ash.org.au/jmresources/rocks/links.html#experiments>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/chemistry/cha ngestoearthandatmosphere/0rocksrev1.shtml>

#### Pigeon Forge Gem Mine

<http://www.pigeon-forge-attractions.com/mine.html>

#### Franklin, TN Gem Mining

<http://www.franklin-chamber.com/visitorInformation/gemMining.asp>

#### Mason's Ruby and Sapphire Mine – Franklin, TN

<http://www.masonsrubyandsapphiremine.com/>

#### Franklin Tennessee Gem Mining Links

<http://www.discoverourtown.com/NC/Franklin/Attractions-2449.html>

#### Emerald Hollow Mine - <http://www.hiddenitegems.com/>

Offers unique "hands on" learning Educational Field Trip Programs.

## Safety Tip

### Bicycle Protection Act



The "Jeff Roth and Brian Brown Bicycle Protection Act of 2007" was signed into law on May 3, 2007, by Tennessee Governor Phil Bredesen. Tennessee joins a handful of states that have moved forward to further protect cyclists on our roadways.

Passed without opposition in both the House and Senate, this act provides that "the operator of a motor vehicle when overtaking and passing a bicycle proceeding in the same direction on the roadway, shall leave a safe distance between the motor vehicle and the bicycle of not less than three feet (3') and shall maintain such clearance until safely past the overtaken bicycle."

Below is a link to the complete copy of the bill.

<http://www.bikechattanooga.org/BicycleProtectionAct.html>

To see the safety laws as they pertain to bicycles in Georgia or North Carolina check out the following links.

[Georgia Bicycle Safety Laws](#)

[Bicycle Laws of North Carolina](#)

## Counselor's Corner

Are there outdoor agencies in your area? How about historic societies? If there are make sure to check and see if they have a website that lists events that are going on in their area. There may be activities that will help you to teach class work, honors or to just have a great time in the outdoors. For example:

### Outdoor Chattanooga

Jan 19-20 – Annual Cherokee Crane Festival

Feb 26 – Leave No Trace Seminar

### Chattahoochee Nature Center

July 12 – Flying Colors Butterfly Festival

### Georgia Online

February 2 – Astronomy Night (Providence Canyon)

March 15 – Hills of Iron (Red Top Mountain)

May 3 – Wildflower Fever (Helen, GA)

## Camping

### **Batten Your Tent Hatches Improve Tent Storm- worthiness**



Anyone can camp reasonably comfortably in fine weather, but when the wind is howling and the rain is coming down in buckets, you need skill and knowledge to guarantee a good night's rest. Here are five simple techniques and modifications to improve your shelter's storm-worthiness

#### **A Foil for Flap**

A tent that hasn't been set up tautly and squarely will flap and slap noisily in a stiff breeze. The racket can be loud enough to keep you awake all night. Tightening is par for the course with hooped tents, but even freestanding tents need their sails trimmed to achieve maximum strength and storm resistance.

The key to a flap-free tent is a taut, wrinkle-free tent floor. For most tents this requires six or more pegs inserted in precisely the correct locations.

Unfortunately, the subterranean section of the Murphy Law firm will always have buried a rock or root precisely where you want to insert the final peg! Well, you can thwart ol' Murphy with these simple attachments to the tent's peg loops:

- Buy a coil of nylon utility cord (a.k.a. "parachute cord") from a camping or hardware store. Choose white or a bright color — not black — to reduce the chances of tripping over your anchors.
- Cut off enough 4-foot lengths to make one for each of the existing peg loops on the tent floor

- Melt the cord ends to prevent fraying by using a flame or soldering iron. Do it outdoors where you won't breathe the fumes.
- Tie one piece of cord at its center to each peg loop (fold the cord in half, poke the fold through the peg loop, pass both free ends of cord through the fold, and pull tight).
- Wrap the two ends of the cord in opposite directions around your peg, bush or rock, and finish with an easily released bow knot (what you tie your shoes with) or a slip reef knot.

#### **Fly Right**

You've had a long day, it's blowing and raining, your eyeglasses are fogged and your fingers are fumbly. The tent is up and now you are installing the fly over it.

You start connecting the fly, but something's wrong: it doesn't seem to fit. You've just fastened half dozen fly connectors to the tent! (or you simply put the vestibule at the wrong end!). In a rainstorm, the mistake could result in a wet tent body. Here's how to position your fly correctly every time:

- Attach a piece of plastic flagging tape or bright colored synthetic fabric ribbon to, say the front left corner of the tent.
- Attach a similar marker to the corresponding corner of the fly.
- Line up the two marked corners and do up the connectors.

[http://gorp.away.com/gorp/gear/knowhow/taut\\_tarps.htm](http://gorp.away.com/gorp/gear/knowhow/taut_tarps.htm)

## Hike of the Month

*'The journey is the destination'*  
Horse Pens 40 Loop –  
Alabama



Horse Pens 40 has the most interesting rock formations in the South. The trail is located on a privately-owned nature park near Steele, Alabama. This trail is short but tough. Be prepared to squeeze through cracks, negotiate slick rocks, and pick your way through a fantastic maze of house-sized boulders. If you like to boulder, don't forget your crash pad. With some of the oldest above-ground rocks in Alabama, Horse Pens 40 is a unique geological treasure. The park is situated on the southwestern end of flat-topped Chandler Mountain. From a satellite view, 1,500-foot Chandler Mountain looks like a raised shoe print. Roughly 2 miles wide and 9 miles long, it's strikingly out of place and completely different from the surrounding topography. Owner Mike Schultz describes it as a big fist punched straight up into the sky. This trail

system winds through a 130 acre private park nestle on top of Chandle Mountain.

**Beginning Elevation:** 1200 feet  
**End/Highest Elevation:** 2000 feet

**Directions:** Horse pens 40 is located in Steele Alabama, on I-59, it is between Gadsden and Birmingham. It is located on county road 42.

- <http://horsepens40.tripod.com/>
- [http://gorp.away.com/gorp/trailfinder/trail\\_details.tcl?trailid=5644](http://gorp.away.com/gorp/trailfinder/trail_details.tcl?trailid=5644)
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horse\\_Pens\\_40](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horse_Pens_40)

## Camp Cooking

### Dutch Oven Vegetables

12" Camp Dutch Oven

8 cups of bite size mixed vegetables of you choice (For example, broccoli florets, cauliflower florets, baby carrots, mushrooms, onions, Bell pepper, zucchini, Butternut squash, rutabaga.)

¼ pound butter

8 ounces grated sharp Cheddar cheese

8 ounces grated fresh Parmesan cheese

Salt and pepper

Water

Put ¼ inch water into a 12 inch camp Dutch oven and add vegetables. Season generously with salt and pepper – more than seems enough. Place slices of butter on top of vegetables. Put Dutch oven over 23 hot coals until recipe is steaming, then pull out at least half of the coals. Steam vegetables until carrots are tender. Set oven off coals, remove water with baster, cover vegetables with the grated cheeses and put lid on the oven. Serve when cheese is melted.

*Lodge Camp Dutch Oven Cooking 101*

## Nature Nugget

### Nature Jeopardy –

Use nature honors as categories

Create your own PowerPoint Jeopardy game using the information and templates in the websites below. This could be used as a way to test the Pathfinders on their knowledge once they've learned the information on the honor. You might even want to have the older Pathfinders put together the questions for the game. There is a template for the questions at the end of this newsletter.

You can even download the jeopardy sound to go with the game.

- <http://www.jmu.edu/madison/teacher/jeopardy/jeopardy.htm>
- [http://www.d.umn.edu/~hrallis/guides/PP/pp\\_jeopardy/jeopardy.html](http://www.d.umn.edu/~hrallis/guides/PP/pp_jeopardy/jeopardy.html)
- <http://www.uscupstate.edu/academics/education/aam/wkshps/index.htm>

Go to the 'Multimedia Workshop' section and open the Jeopardy Planning Form.

<http://www1.umn.edu/ohr/teachlearn/tutorials/powerpoint/games.html#millionaire>

## Knot this Month

### Knotty

1) Each Pathfinder is provided with a thin rope that is a foot and a half long.

2) Two players sit face to face with about 8 feet between them. One player holds his rope in front of him and the other scout is the guesser. When the Pathfinder who is the guesser says "Ready!" the other Pathfinder puts his cord behind him and makes any number of simple, single knots on it, from one to four. The knots are made as fast as possible and when done, the player brings his empty hand out in front of him. His opponent guesses how many knots there are on the cord. The guesser only has one chance.

3) Immediately upon the guess the rope is held out in front of the player who made the knots, in order to prove the guess right or wrong. The Pathfinder making the knots tries to fool his opponent by only making one knot, none, or several knots in the time it should take to make one, in order to fool his opponent. His face can give the expression that his hands are idle when they are actually busy or vice versa.

4) When playing this game as a competition, each player on each team has a turn at knotting and guessing before the winning side can count coup. A team can have a brief conference before guessing the number of knots made by the opposing team. In team competition it is best to have a referee to keep track of the score made by each team.

## Subscribe to Pathfinder Pathways

If you would like to get an email notice when it has been published, send an email with "Subscribe" in the subject line to [GCCPathways@yahoo.com](mailto:GCCPathways@yahoo.com)

Pathways Editor – Karen Reed

[gccpathways@yahoo.com](mailto:gccpathways@yahoo.com)

Pathways Coordinator – Joe White

[pathfinderjoe@gmail.com](mailto:pathfinderjoe@gmail.com)

## Jeopardy Planning Form

Category 1: \_\_\_\_\_

*(clue in the form of a statement)*

1-	
1a	
1-	
2a	
1-	
3a	
1-	
4a	
1-	
final	

*(form of a question)*

1-1q	
1-2q	
1-3q	
1-4q	
1-final	

Category 2: \_\_\_\_\_

*(clue in the form of a statement)*

2-	
1a	
2-	
2a	
2-	
3a	
2-	
4a	
2-	
5a	

*(form of a question)*

2-1q	
2-2q	
2-3q	
2-4q	
2-5q	

Category 3: \_\_\_\_\_

*(clue in the form of a statement)*

3-	
1a	
3-	
2a	
3-	
3a	
3-	
4a	
3-	
5a	

*(form of a question)*

3-1q	
3-2q	
3-3q	
3-4q	
3-5q	

Category 4: \_\_\_\_\_

*(clue in the form of a statement)*

4-	
1a	
4-	
2a	
4-	
3a	
4-	
4a	
4-	
5a	

*(form of a question)*

4-1q	
4-2q	
4-3q	
4-4q	
4-5q	

Category 5: \_\_\_\_\_

*(clue in the form of a statement)*

5-	
1a	
5-	
2a	
5-	
3a	
5-	
4a	
5-	
5a	

*(form of a question)*

5-1q	
5-2q	
5-3q	
5-4q	
5-5q	