

APOEC Lesson Plan

SEARCH & RESCUE

Supervision Ratio (*Adults : Students*): 1:6 Approximate Session Duration: 2hrs

Please note APOEC staff will run the Lead Adult through this session in more detail prior to the session.

OBJECTIVES

- Learn about basic trip planning and safety in the outdoors
- Learn about the role of LANDSAR
- Develop team work and co-ordination through planning a search for a missing person
- Have a fun and safe experience through playing the role of a rescue organization
- Learn about stretcher building and practice this

ORGANISATION

- Prepare search by putting out all of the clues and the missing person
- APOEC staff will prepare the stretcher building equipment, planning packages and radios

ADULT BRIEFING

On the morning of the session, APOEC staff will brief all assisting adults on:

- Their roles – supervise a group and ensure they stay together
- The key safety factors

On session, the Lead Adult will be in charge of managing:

- Who has first aid kits and radios
- Any individuals that may require special attention

STUDENT BRIEFING AND SLIDESHOW

The search and rescue briefing relies heavily on the visual aids in the slide show to help set the scene. Work through the slide show on the TV (using the notes provided) to teach participants about LandSAR and how they can stay safe in the outdoors before moving onto the mission briefing.

Once you have worked your way through the slideshow you will brief the group on stretcher building and practice building them on the lawn. Run the relevant participants through radio use and how to use the clue flags.

Before departure, re-cap the safety points prior to the group leaving APOEC:

- Group management / teamwork / job roles
- Boundaries
- Radio use

SESSION

(Lead Adult will be provided with a detailed step-by-step SAR session plan)

- We typically run this activity in 2 groups (ideally max 10 participants per group).
- Run through the slideshow, use notes and cover briefing
- Ensure everyone has a job role – Explain what they entail
- Take the groups out to the lawn to practice stretcher building – Safe test them – Lead Adult MUST ensure students are being safe
- Start the search from the Last Known Point – Each of the 2 teams must stay together at all times. Use the other assisting adults for this.
- Stay on the radio as the groups will each have a radio held by the students but available to adults if required.
- Follow the teams, (try and be with the “front group”) to get to the missing hiker with them.
- Once they have found the missing hiker, wait for both groups.
- Brief them on what comes next: One group will carry the missing hiker on a stretcher, one group will carry a peer (or their bags if not sensible / low on numbers). Minimum of 6 people carrying each stretcher.
- Groups to swap over who they are carrying at DoC, carry back to centre.
- Lead Adult to ensure one adult per group is monitoring the stretcher and keeping everyone safe.

DEBRIEF

- If you were to do it again what would you do differently?
- What did you learn about staying safe in the outdoors?
- How could this situation have been avoided?
- Who found what clue and what was the process of the search?
- How do you think this would have been carrying an adult from Devil’s Punchbowl for example?

PACK DOWN

- Ensure all clues and equipment is cleaned, dried and put away for the next group
- Clean off the planning packages, return the clipboards and pens