

**Counselor Edition** Cub Scout NOVA – Tech Talk

1. Look up a definition of Technology and discuss it with your counselor.

Technology is the process by which humans modify nature to meet their needs and wants; it is a product of engineering and science.

<http://www.members.nae.edu/nae/techlithome.nsf/weblinks/KGRG-55A3ER?OpenDocument>

Sometimes people refer to something as “high tech” or “low tech”. “High tech” refers to the most currently advanced technology, but high tech becomes low tech with longevity and familiarity and as old technologies are replaced.

2. Watch or read, choose one:

- i. Watch an episode or episodes (about an hour total) of NOVA or other media production\* that involves technology or how technology is used.

Many boys will watch episodes on airplanes, space flight, computers, and other “high tech” products.

- ii. Make a list of at least two questions or ideas from each production
- iii. Discuss the ideas and questions with your counselor

- b. Read one long or two short magazine articles\*\* that talk about technology or how it is used.

- i. Make a list of at least two questions or ideas from the article(s)
- ii. Discuss the ideas and questions with your counselor

- c. Do a combination of reading and watching

- i. Make a list of at least two questions or ideas from the article or production
- ii. Discuss the ideas and questions with your counselor

3. Complete a belt loop or pin from the following list

Astronomy	Map and Compass
BB Gun Shooting	Music
Bicycling	Photography
Bowling	Snow Ski and Board Sports
Computers	Video Games

4. What technology is used in your belt loop or pin?

Astronomy	Map and Compass
Telescopes, Binoculars, Maps	Maps, Compasses
BB Gun Shooting	Music
Gun	Musical instruments, Tape recorders
Bicycling	Photography
Bicycle, Safety equipment, Protective gear	Cameras, Light meters
Bowling	Snow Ski and Board Sports
Pin re-setter, Ball return equipment, Scoring equipment	Skis and poles, Snow boards, Cold weather gear, Ski lifts
Computers	Video Games
Computers	Game systems, Monitors

- a. How do you think this technology
    - i. Was invented?
    - ii. Could be made better?
  - b. Discuss your ideas with your counselor
5. Discuss with your counselor, then
- a. Visit a place of your choice that uses technology and
  - b. talk to someone in charge about
    - i. the technologies used where you are visiting
    - ii. Why they use these technologies
- Possible choices of places to visit may include
- 1. An amusement park
    - a. Computers, rides, entry gates, camera monitors ...
  - 2. A police or fire station
    - a. Computers, vehicles, rescue equipment, sirens, jaws of life, fingerprint ink, handcuffs, hoses...
  - 3. A radio or television station
    - a. Computers, printers, broadcast equipment, fax machines, telephones...
  - 4. A newspaper office
    - a. Computers, printers, rollers, folding machines, telephones, tape recorders, voice recognition...
  - 5. A factory or store
    - a. Computers, cash registers, scanning equipment, lights, machinery, vehicles...
6. Discuss with your NOVA counselor
- a. how technology is used in
    - i. Communication (radio, TV, newspapers and magazines)
    - ii. Business
    - iii. Construction
    - iv. Sports
    - v. Entertainment
  - b. Why technology is important
 

Technology is important because it is how human modify nature to meet their needs and wants; it is how we make our surroundings more comfortable, make our work easier, communicate, conduct business, travel...