



The Teaching *EDGE*

Explain, Demonstrate, Guide, Enable

This Leadership Skill enables Leaders to:

- Understand the method of skill instruction used in Scouting
- Understand how the effective use of the *EDGE* method promotes learning Scout skills by the structure of the presentation method
- Understand how the use of the *EDGE* method can contribute to team building and forging a successful team

The *EDGE* method is the primary training method to teach skills in the Scouting program. The *EDGE* method should be used for all teaching opportunities from skill development to presenting Interpatrol activities. Make using the *EDGE* method a habit. It can - *and should* - be used anytime a leader is helping others learn.

The four-step *EDGE* method is a simple means of teaching any skill:

1. ***Explain*** - The trainer explains how the skill or task is done, and the reason for learning the skill.
2. ***Demonstrate*** - After the trainer explains, the trainer demonstrates while explaining again. This step can be presented more than once, breaking the task down into each step and demonstrating each step one at a time. This gives the learner a clear understanding of what success looks like.
3. ***Guide*** - The learner tries the skill while the trainer guides him through the steps. The trainer gives instant feedback as the learner practices the skill. The skill should be practiced multiple times to facilitate an understanding each of the steps of the skill.
4. ***Enable*** - The learner works independently under the watchful eye of the trainer. The trainer helps remove any obstacles to success, thus enabling the learner to succeed.

When used regularly to teach a skill, the *EDGE* method becomes easier to use and leads to higher success in learning new skills and higher retention of learned skills by all members of the Troop.