

Messengers of Peace

The Activity:

*Complete a Messengers of Peace
service project*



The Beaver Scout Trail

Bree: Help with the service project

Ruarc: Take on a specific job for the service project

Conn: Help choose and organise the service project

Whose talents can help with this activity?

Fionn: Understand that it is important that I am
considerate and help others

Spike: Be kind to others and don't do harm
Understand the ideas of right and wrong

Plan

Introduction

The Messengers of Peace Award aims to promote world peace through the positive activities of young people. Any Beaver Scout who has voluntarily invested more than 10 hours in a community service project is eligible for the award. This can be anything from running a fun day for the disadvantaged in your local community, to coordinating a book donation for a school in need.

Any community project that brings a positive change to an area - its health, environment, social circumstances, safety or addresses conflict – is a Messengers of Peace project. Since 2012, Scouts across the world have been sharing their community service initiatives online on scout.org. To date, more than 620,000,000 service hours have been registered in over 40,000 community service initiatives.

Requirements

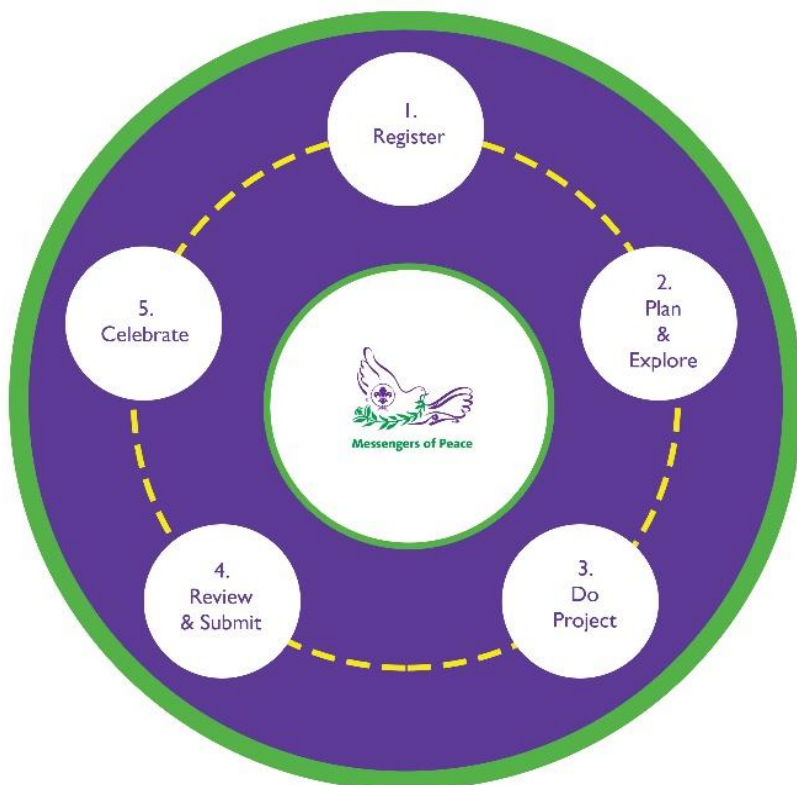
Complete a service project which involves at least 10 hours of effort. Your project should include the following:

- Service to a community: The project should address a need in the community.
- Sustainable: It should have a lasting impact
- Personal Progression: All of the Beaver Scouts should be involved in organising and doing the project.

Plan

Steps to getting the Award:

1. The Colony or each Lodge firstly registers by emailing betterworld@scouts.ie (include your Group details, numbers of Beaver Scouts participating, and your planned project).
2. Plan: Fionn helps us explore a community issue (meeting) and Spike shows us why it is important to help (meeting)
3. Do: Do your community project (day adventure)
4. Review: Spike helps you look at the difference you made and Fionn helps you celebrate (meeting). Submit an application.
5. Celebrate your achievement!



Plan

Exploration activities

Activity 1: Céad Míle Fáilte! – A Hundred Thousand Welcomes!

Aim: To encourage the Beaver Scouts to take a positive role in welcoming migrants or refugees.

Time: 30 minutes

Sustainable Development Goals: 4. Quality Education, 10. Reduced Inequalities, 17. Partnerships for the Goals

Materials: Map of the world, colourful sticker dots, art materials, A2 paper, pens, markers.

The idea of this activity is to give the Beaver Scouts a positive sense of the fact that people move around the world for lots of different reasons and that we can take a proactive role to welcome them.

Step 1: Show the Beaver Scouts the map of the world. Give each Lodge a different coloured sheet of stickers. Invite the Lodges up one by one, each member placing stickers on the places that they have visited.

Step 2: Ask the Beaver Scouts how they travelled there. Was it comfortable? How was the food? Were the people nice? What was most fun?

Step 3: Explain to the Beaver Scouts that sometimes families have to move from their home country and go to live in another country. The Lodges might suggest reasons for this, or Scouters might mention some. *(You can make a call about whether the group are ready to talk about sensitive issues like refugees)*

Step 4: Get the Beaver Scouts to imagine that a group of children their own age were going to be arriving in their area in a month. Ask them to make a poster to welcome these new children. Tell them all of the great things about the area!

Activity 2: The Same But Different

Aim: To enable Beaver Scouts to recognise and appreciate that as human beings, we can be similar and different in many ways.

Time: 30 minutes

Sustainable Development Goals: 4. Quality Education, 10. Reduced Inequalities

Materials: A potato for each Beaver Scout, a bag to put the potatoes in, flipchart, markers.

Step 1: Let each Beaver Scout pick a potato out of the bag. Ask them to examine their potato carefully – look at its shape and size, any lumps or bumps, etc..

Step 2: Collect the potatoes into the bag. Mix them around and pour them onto the floor. Ask the Beaver Scouts to find their potato and return to their Lodges.

Step 3: Ask the Beaver Scouts how they were able to identify their potato. Using a flipchart/board, write down the Beaver Scouts' answers to the following questions:

- Was it difficult to find their potato?
- Were all of the potatoes different? How were they different?
- Were they the same in any way? How?

You should point out at the end of the exercise that although each potato is different, it is still a potato on the inside.

Step 4: Ask the Beaver Scouts to discuss the following in their Lodges:

- Do all people in your local area and in Ireland look the same, dress the same, etc.? If not, why is this the case?
- In what way are we different on the outside?
- In what way are we the same on the inside?

Step 5: Invite the Lodges to tell the rest of the group what they found in their discussion as part of a Log Chew.

Do

You should run a project which is benefit to the community. This can be any service, such as putting on a variety show in a nursing home, make gift boxes for local social charities, or a fundraising event for a charity.

Before You 'DO' Anything...

Reflect:

Brainstorm with your Beaver Scouts on the following...

- What activities did the Beaver Scouts carry out in their exploration?
- What did they learn from these activities?
- How does what we have learned in the 'exploration' relate to our local community, or a community that we know of?
- What can we do for this community in relation to the issues addressed?
- Is there already a group in your community who need help with a project?

Do:

- Make an *action* plan!

Once you have a rough outline of your action plan, ask your Beaver Scouts to draw/explain the community as it is now, then ask them to draw/explain how they imagine things might look after the project is complete. You might ask your Beaver Scouts to write one wish for the project on a piece of card. Keep these somewhere safe to look back on in your Review!

Review

Lodge Chew

- What was your project?
- How did it help the community?
- Did you like helping other people?
- Look back on your wish for the project



How did the Fox Lodge help us achieve our Beaver Scout Trail badges?



Fionn shows us it is important to be considerate and help others

Bree: What was your project? What did you do?

Ruarc: What was your job? Did the project help other people?

Conn: How did you help? Why is it important to help others?



Spike shows us why we should be kind and how we can understand right and wrong

Bree: What was your favourite part?

Ruarc: Did you like helping other people?

Conn: How did the project help other people?

Let's get out the trail map and colour in some dots!

The Sustainable Development Goals

1. No Poverty
2. No Hunger
3. Good Health
4. Quality Education
5. Gender Equality
6. Clean Water & Sanitation
7. Renewable Energy
8. Good Jobs & Economic Growth
9. Innovation & Infrastructure
10. Reduced Inequalities
11. Sustainable Cities & Communities
12. Responsible Consumption
13. Climate Action
14. Life Below Water
15. Life on Land
16. Justice
17. Partnerships for the Goals

Key Definitions

- A **refugee** is someone who has been **forced** to flee their home country because of a well-founded fear of persecution because of ethnicity, religion, nationality, and political opinion, or because of violence, conflict, or natural disaster.
- An **asylum seeker** is a person seeking to be granted protection as a **refugee** outside their country of origin, and who is waiting for a legal determination of his/her application.
- A **migrant** is someone who **chooses** to move to another country in search of a better life – to find work, or for such reasons as education, business, or family reunion.

Castle Saunderson Scout Centre

Castle Saunderson has Peace and Community programmes which are specifically linked to the Messengers of Peace Award. It is a great way of practically exploring the Award and getting started on planning a project. Check out their website for more www.castlesaunderson.com

Possible partner organisations

- **Community Associations** often undertake small social projects which you can help out with.
- **City/County Councils:** Local authorities often have community or recreational divisions which offer support to community organisations.
- **Enable Ireland** provides services to children and adults with disabilities and their families. www.enableireland.ie
- **Irish Red Cross** provides humanitarian support and community services to the most vulnerable at home and abroad. redcross.ie
- **Irish Wheelchair Association** provides quality services to people with limited mobility throughout the country. iwa.ie
- **St Vincent de Paul** offers practical assistance to families in need. You could fundraise for them or organise a collection of items for their shops. www.svp.ie
- **European Anti-Poverty Network Ireland** provides training on social issues. www.eapn.ie
- **Trócaire** have a number of campaigns to get involved in - www.trocaire.org
- **World Vision** are always seeking funding for their work – perhaps this could tie in with your project? - worldvision.ie