Explorer Activity Badge Book

Sept 26

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Welcome to the Explorer Scout Badge Book

Welcome to the new Explorer Scout programme. We hope you enjoy exploring the badges, trying new activities, developing new skills, and challenging yourself along the way.

Unlike previous programmes, we don't currently plan to produce a physical, purchasable badge book. This is a deliberate choice that allows us to keep the programme flexible and responsive. Rather than waiting many years to make improvements, we can update badge requirements, introduce new badges, and make changes whenever they're needed to better support our young people and volunteers.

About this Badge Book

This badge book has been designed to be downloaded and printed at home if you'd like a physical copy. To get the best results, we recommend:

- Printing in **black and white** to reduce printing costs.
- Printing **double-sided** to ensure pages appear in the correct order.
- Using your printer's **booklet printing** option, where available, to automatically arrange pages for folding and stapling into a booklet.
- Checking your printer settings before printing, as booklet printing options vary between devices and software.

Keeping Your Badge Book Up to Date

As the programme evolves, updated versions of this badge book will be released.

Whenever a badge is added or amended:

- The version date on the **front cover** will be updated.
- The revision date shown in the **bottom-left corner of each page** will also be updated.
- This helps you quickly check that you're using the latest version of the badge requirements.

Thank you for being part of the new Explorer Scout programme. We can't wait to see what you'll achieve next.

Explorers Action Sports Activity Badge



Action sports are high-adrenaline activities that often involve speed, risk, and skill, such as skateboarding, BMX, surfing, and snowboarding. So if you enjoy pushing your limits, or want to explore exciting new challenges, then the Explorers' Action Sports badge is for you!

Complete your Action Sports badge:

1. **Take part in at least one session of an Action Sport of your choice.**
   Ensure that supervision is provided by an an appropriately qualified person if your action sport requires one.

2. **Complete 3 Activities. You Could:**

   a. **Discover - Find out how an action sport has changed since it's invention.**
   Look at the technology used and how it's image has changed.

   b. **Experience - Take part in an action sport.**
   Learn the skills required for the activity, any equipment used, and how to keep yourself safe when partaking the activity

   c. **Mobilise - Find out about action sport opportunities in your community. What can you do to help a community sports club?**
   Work with them on one of their development targets, whether that's to improve their facilities, recruit more members or raise funds for a new project.

   d. **Solve - Plan a trip to take part in an action sport of your choice.**
   Think about how you'll get there, what costs are involved and what kit you'll need. Then put the plan into place!

   e. **Create - Create a new piece of equipment or accessory that can be used for an action sport of your choice.**
   You could present your design to the rest of your group and compare it with others in a structured, competitive activity. You could even create a prototype and try it out!

Make it your own

Action sports are great fun to take part in but there are other ways to experience them. Watching an event or learning about a sport are just as much fun!
To get the badge, you can either try some of our example activities, or come up with your own with support from a Scouts volunteer or trusted adult. The activities should be challenging for you and take a reasonable amount of time.

Guidance for Leaders

Offer flexibility and encourage Explorers to tailor their badge to their interests and skill set.
Everyone has different skills and experiences, so try to consider their starting point when choosing what they will achieve.
As a rough guide, an Activity Badge should be achievable within 3 weeks of activities.

September 2026.
Requirements can be adapted to suit each young persons abilities.

Explorers Athletics Activity Badge



Challenge yourself to get active, explore Athletic events, and discover how to improve your performance. This badge is all about building skills, trying new experiences, and pushing yourself to achieve your personal best, whether that's learning something new, taking part, or even leading others.

Complete three activities. You could:

1. **Discover - Look into the science behind how athletes improve their speed or strength.**
   Can you put some into practice as a group?
2. **Experience - Try out a new athletic discipline, like long jump or shot put, and see how you do, it's all about giving it a go!**
   Consider the safety rules and how you could apply these across disciplines.
3. **Mobilise - Take part in a community athletics activity, either marshalling or participating.**
   You could have a go at your local park run, or volunteer as a marshal to support an event.
4. **Solve - Create a plan to beat your personal best in an activity, whether it's running, jumping, or throwing, and track how you improve over time.**
5. **Create - Organise and run an athletics event for your District, County or Region.**
   You could organise a venue, plan and lead activities and invite other groups to join.

Make it your own

You could explore how music affects your workout performance or even challenge yourself to train like an Olympic athlete for a week. Whatever you choose, make it something that keeps you moving and having fun!

Remember, sometimes it's more fun to do things together so why not find out about local athletics or running clubs and join in.

To get the badge, you can either try some of our example activities, or come up with your own with support from a Scouts volunteer or trusted adult. The activities should be challenging for you and take a reasonable amount of time.

Guidance for Leaders

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Explorers Camper Activity Badge



If you love sleeping under the stars, cooking in the great outdoors, and taking on new camping challenges, then the Explorers' Camper badge is for you!

Complete your Camper badge:

1. **Camp outdoors for a total of seven nights across two events or more as an Explorer, including at least three nights as part of this badge.**
2. **Complete 3 Activities. You Could:**
    a. **Discover - Investigate how camping equipment has changed in the past 20-40 years.**
    Focus on one area which interests you.
    b. **Experience - Use three different types of camping stove to cook a meal.**
    Think about which stove works best for the kind of camping you're doing and explore how you can keep yourself, others, and the environment safe while cooking outdoors.
    c. **Mobilise - Help your local campsite to plan and implement one way they can be more inclusive and accessible.**
    d. **Solve - Plan, budget and execute a camp.**
    You should include activities, a menu and appropriate risk assessments for your Unit.
    e. **Create - Design a local campsite directory, campfire songbook or camp recipe book which could be used by anyone in your group.**

Make it your own

Camping has many forms, so consider doing something different to what you would normally do.
Why not challenge yourself to camp every month of the year or at least in all the different seasons of a year.
To earn your badge, you can either try some of our example activities, or come up with your own with support from a Scouts volunteer or trusted adult. The activities should be challenging for you and take a reasonable amount of time.

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Explorers Caving Activity Badge



If you're excited by underground adventures, curious about how caves are formed, or ready to take on the challenge of exploring the depths, then the Explorers Caving badge is for you!

Complete your Caving badge:

1. **Take part in at least one caving trip as part of completing this badge.**
   Make sure your trip is supervised by an appropriately qualified person.
2. **Complete 3 Activities. You Could:**
   a. **Discover - Find out how caves are formed.**
   This might be a cave system local to you or a famous cave system. Understand and explain how it was formed.
   b. **Experience - Take part in a caving trip.**
   It's important to make sure you do it safely, with a properly led group and relevant qualifications or safety permits in place.
   c. **Mobilise - Find out about our responsibilities when caving.**
   This might include cave conservation, safety systems or access rights to caves. Promote why responsible caving is important within your group or further afield.
   d. **Solve - Learn how to set up a prussik line for vertical caving and have a go at using it.**
   It's a good idea to have someone experienced and qualified check it's right. This could be in a tree at your HQ so everyone could have a try.
   e. **Create - Create a model cave system showing the reasons that the system formed.**
   It could be based on a cave system that you have visited. Think about the techniques you would need to use to explore your model cave system.

Make it your own

Do you want to find out more about speleology (the study of Caves) and geology? This badge is a great opportunity to explore something that excites you!
You could look at animal life in caves and how it differs from species found above ground as part of this activity and link it to another activity badge at the same time.
To get the badge, you can either try some of our example activities, or come up with your own with support from a Scouts volunteer or trusted adult. The activities should be challenging for you and take a reasonable amount of time.

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Explorers Chef Activity Badge



If you love getting creative in the kitchen, mastering new cooking skills, or exploring the stories behind your favourite dishes, then you'll love the Explorers' Chef badge!

Complete three activities. You could:

1. **Discover - Choose a recipe, a cooking technique or a traditional food, and find out about its history.**
   Have a go at making something using traditional methods and ingredients, avoiding modern techniques.
2. **Experience - Hold a cooking competition with your Unit or District.**
3. **Mobilise - Look at the social issues that surround our food production, and see if you can take any actions to reduce their impact.**
   This could involve researching certain ingredients, or visiting production facilities or farms.
4. **Solve - Plan a recipe or menu that you would make in your usual kitchen facilities. Then, try and make that using a different cooking facility.**
   For example, you could try camping stoves or a campfire instead of a normal kitchen. Think about how you could improvise utensils and maintain hygiene.
5. **Create - Create a menu for a specific event.**
   This could be anything from a gala style dinner, or a street food tasting night! Build your budget and shopping list and design the menu for the event.

Make it your own

Use this badge as a way of expanding your food horizons. You could visit a country where the food intrigues you, learn and use a technique that is unusual or even think about growing your own ingredients for your cooking.
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Explorers Climber Activity Badge



Supported by a friend, chalk covered fingers, your foot reaches the ridge. This is how you climb to the top.

Complete your Climber badge

1. **Take part in at least two sessions of climbing, indoor or out, while completing this badge.**
   Make sure your session is supervised by an an appropriately qualified person**.**

2. **Complete 3 Activities. You Could:**

   a. **Discover - Find out about the history of Climbing in the UK.**
   Consider how the sport, equipment and access has evolved over the years.

   b. **Experience - Take part in two different types of climbing and find out about how these climbs are graded and recorded.**
   This could be bouldering, an indoor climbing wall or climbing outside – they all have different grading systems, and different ways of recording the climbs!

   c. **Mobilise - Consider accessibility within climbing - how it could be more accessible and encourage more people into the sport.**
   You could help on a session for another section, or work with your local bouldering gym to improve access for visually impaired climbers.

   d. **Solve - Look at different safety equipment, discover and discuss how we use it and what each item does.**
   Work out why equipment does not work when it's not used properly - then demonstrate what to look out for to ensure it is safe.

   e. **Create - Create a guidebook entry for a climb you've done.**
   Consider the information other climbers would need, and any information you think is important to include.

Make it your own

Do you want to learn more about Orology (the study of mountains) or just want to find out about a new sport.
Think outside the box, but remember to keep safe and use the correct gear.
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Explorers Coach Activity Badge



If you enjoy sharing your skills, helping others learn, and developing your leadership abilities, then you should try the Explorers' Coach badge.

Complete three activities. You could:

1. **Discover - Learn about different coaching techniques, like how to break down skills or keep a group motivated.**
   Demonstrate these to your Unit, and share one you think works well.
2. **Experience - Run a session to coach a group in a new skill that will help them work towards or achieve the badge that you're supporting in - see how they do with your help!**
   Can you evaluate how you've instructed afterwards, and learn anything from your experience? You should also consider safety, assessing any risk involved, and what it might mean to be responsible for the session.
3. **Mobilise - Plan, organise and deliver a workshop to a group outside of your Unit**
   This could be a different section, or a Unit elsewhere in your area. Develop your workshop plan, and teach a skill or activity specific to the badge you earned.
4. **Solve - Come up with a creative way to explain a tricky concept, like using props or games to make it easier to understand.**
   Try and come up with more than one way to explain the concept, and test them out on a group. See how the different ways affect understanding.
5. **Create - Design a session plan or tip sheet describing how you would teach or instruct a specific skill or activity.**
   Test out your plan to see if it helps others learn quickly and easily. You could also give the plan to someone else to run, and get their feedback on how easy it was to implement.

Make it your own

- Love gaming? Find a video game that shows the skill you're teaching.
- Into drawing? Draw pictures that explain the skill.
- Pick something that excites you and pass on the passion!
- To earn your badge, you can either try some of our example activities, or come up with your own with support from a Scouts volunteer or trusted adult. The activities should be challenging for you and take a reasonable amount of time.

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Explorers Communication Activity Badge



If you enjoy sharing your skills, helping others learn, and developing your leadership abilities, then you should try the Explorers' Coach badge.

Complete three activities. You could:

1. **Discover - Find out about digital footprints.**
   Research yourself online and find out what information someone could find out about you if they tried. You don't need to share the results, but using what you've found out, investigate how you can make yourself safer online.
2. **Experience - Learn a new way of communicating.**
   Learn some phrases and words in either, a new language, sign language or by exploring non-verbal ways of communicating.
3. **Mobilise - Look at how charities talk about Mental Health. Create and share a way to encourage open conversations about feelings.**
   What could you do to encourage people to talk about how they are feeling?
4. **Solve - Research the issues around social media and digital communication.**
   Think about the pros and cons of different platforms. What could be done to help people in your Unit use the different platforms safely and effectively?
5. **Create - Create a method of communicating.**
   Think big – this could be from building a machine to help communicate (think radio, Raspberry Pi, morse code machine or similar), or designing a method of communication to help in one of your activities (for example, when on the water).

Make it your own

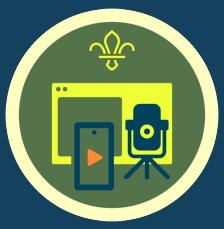
Remember to think broadly and choose something that you are interested in.
Think about the power of communication and the benefits of communicating effectively.
If you are applying for further education or jobs, think about how you could use your new communication skills to help.
To get the badge, you can either try some of our example activities, or come up with your own with support from a Scouts volunteer or trusted adult. The activities should be challenging for you and take a reasonable amount of time.

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Explorer Content Creation Activity Badge



Whether you're into filming, writing, designing, or podcasting—this badge is all about bringing ideas to life through creative content. You'll explore different formats, experiment with tools and techniques, and learn how to craft engaging stories that connect with others. From concept to creation, this is your chance to build skills, express yourself, and share your voice with the world.

Complete three activities. You could:

1. **Discover - Explore how digital content can shape opinions, build communities, and influence change.**
   Learn about ethical storytelling, audience responsibility, and how algorithms and advertising affect what we see and share.
2. **Experience - Create a piece of content that aims to positively influence your community or raise awareness of an issue.**
   Choose a format that suits your message, video, podcast, blog, graphic, or photo essay, and reflect on how your choices affect impact and accessibility.
3. **Mobilise - Collaborate with your District or County to design a digital campaign that supports recruitment or community engagement.**
   Use your skills to help others take action, whether that's joining Scouts, volunteering, or supporting a local cause.
4. **Solve - Investigate how to make digital content inclusive and accessible, then teach others what you've learned.**
   Create a guide, workshop, or explainer content that highlights tools like ALT text, captions, and inclusive design choices.
5. **Create - Develop a digital storytelling project that includes diverse voices and perspectives from across Scouting.**
   This could be a podcast, video series, or blog just make sure it's purposeful, inclusive, and designed to spark conversation or change.

Make it your own

There are so many different styles and types of content – everyone will be drawn to something different! If you're stuck, consider the types of content you like to watch or listen to, and start from there. Remember, you don't need any fancy equipment – your phone will do! Apps such as CapCut are free and can help you get started with things like editing.

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Explorers Creative Arts Activity Badge



If you love expressing yourself through art, music, dance, or performance, then the Explorers' Creative Arts badge is perfect for you!

Complete three activities. You could:

1. **Discover - Find out about an artist, craftsperson or arts organisation and their work.**
   What or who inspired them? How did they get started? What are their motivations?
2. **Experience - Learn a new creative skill.**
   This could cover art, performing arts, dance, photography or music.
3. **Mobilise: Find out what opportunities there are around your local area for you or your Unit to get involved in the Arts.**
   Is there anything you could do to improve opportunities? You could raise some funds, help with running a session, or support in building opportunities to access the arts for others.
4. **Solve - Create a piece of art using a non-traditional medium or an innovative way of working.**
   This could be painting using natural materials, creating a piece of performance art, using unconventional materials or techniques, or using soundbites to create music.
5. **Create - Explore an avenue or medium of your choice and create a piece of work that reflects you as a person.**
   How could you present this to other people?

Make it your own

- Remember to think broadly and choose something that you are interested in.
- Remember that the Arts encompass lots of different areas and that theatres and museums also fall into this area.
- There are also lots of different platforms and mediums in which you can unleash your creativity.
- Could you work towards achieving an Arts Award? If you have a creative skill already, could you teach it to your unit?
- To get the badge, you can either try some of our example activities, or come up with your own with support from a Scouts volunteer or trusted adult. The activities should be challenging for you and take a reasonable amount of time.

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Explorers Democracy Activity Badge



Exploring how democracy, rights and participation shape our communities, helps you understand how decisions are made, and how you can take part. Through learning, real experiences and taking action, you'll look at issues that matter to you, explore how systems work, and help create positive change in your community. This badge is about understanding democracy, using your voice, and getting involved in decision-making.

Complete three activities. You could:

1. **Discover - Explore the history of democracy in your country**
   This could include how it works, people's rights, who could vote, how people have influenced decisions, and how your local area has a say in wider decisions.
2. **Experience - Attend, take part in, or meet representatives from a local youth voice or democratic forum.**
   This could include a Youth Parliament, Youth Council, local authority youth forum, or similar group. Find out who is involved, how young people's views are represented, how decisions are made, and the impact on the local community.
3. **Mobilise - Gather evidence from other young people about a local issue and how it could be addressed, then share your findings with a local decision-maker or youth voice structure.**
   This could be a councillor, council officer, Member of Youth Parliament, youth council, community organisation, or similar.
4. **Solve - Develop a way to improve how young people's voices are heard on issues that affect them**
   This could be through a project, event, consultation, or another way of gathering and sharing information.
5. **Create - Design a simple way to help others understand democracy.**
   This could include how people can take part and why participation matters. This could be shared as a video, podcast, artwork, event, or online resource.

Make it your own

Exploring democracy is not about promoting political parties, but about understanding how decisions are made and how they affect everyday life. Think about how local and national decisions influence things like school, transport, services, opportunities, and even your interests such as sport, gaming, or hobbies. Help other young people see that democracy is part of everyday life, and that their voice can help shape the world around them as they begin to understand how it works.

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Explorers Employability Skills Activity Badge



Exploring employability skills will help you prepare for the future, whether you're applying for jobs, apprenticeships, or further education. Take on challenges that will boost your confidence and get you ready for the world of work!

Complete three activities. You could:

1. **Discover - Research the transferrable soft skills that Employers look for.**
   Identify how your time in Explorers may contribute to these skills.
2. **Experience - Build some mock interviews for another person in your Unit.**
   Have a go at both interviewing and being interviewed and giving feedback.
3. **Mobilise - Get in touch with some local employers and businesses in your area, and ask them to run some employability sessions.**
   These could include mock interviews, discussions on what careers are available, and the transferrable skills they look for.
4. **Solve - Set up some scenarios or simulations of conflicts you may face in Scouting, in School/College or other parts of your life.**
   Could you implement some conflict resolution skills? Try acting out different scenarios to see what techniques work, and evaluate as a group at the end.
5. **Create - Create your CV through a medium not usually seen in job applications.**
   This could be a fun video, or a presentation using specific software or techniques or a song – whatever will help you to express your skills, knowledge, experience, and ultimately, why you should be hired.

Make it your own

Lots of skills are useful when looking for a job. Some key skills are:

- Critical thinking
- Adaptability
- Emotional intelligence
- Conflict resolution
- Learning new skills quickly

Why not come up with a challenge based on one of the above themes and then challenge your fellow Explorers to complete it?

To get the badge, you can either try some of our example activities, or come up with your own with support from a Scouts volunteer or trusted adult. The activities should be challenging for you and take a reasonable amount of time.

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Explorers Exploration Activity Badge



Exploration is all about curiosity and discovery! Whether you're venturing into new places, learning about different perspectives, or uncovering history, take on challenges that inspire you to see the world in a new way.

Complete three activities. You could:

1. **Discover - Investigate the life and impact of an explorer.**
   Choose a historical or contemporary explorer and research not only their journey but also the social, environmental, or scientific impact of their expedition.
2. **Experience - Navigate and document an unfamiliar area.**
   Create a detailed field journal or digital map that includes observations of natural features, historical landmarks, and local culture.
3. **Mobilise - Advocate for access to outdoor spaces.**
   Research Public Rights of Way in your area and investigate any current issues or campaigns related to access. Join or collaborate with a local group working to maintain or improve these paths.
4. **Solve - Design a detailed plan for an expedition to a remote or hard-to-reach location.**
   Include transport, safety, equipment, budgeting, and team roles as if preparing for a real-world challenge.
5. **Create - While out exploring an area, gather meaningful items, images, or sounds.**
   Use them to produce something that communicates your experience or feelings when in that area.

Make it your own

- How else can you be curious?
- Is there anywhere or anything you would like to explore?
- Tailor this badge to your own adventures.
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Explorers Fundraising Activity Badge



Fundraising is about creativity, teamwork, and making a difference. Whether you're raising money for a cause or learning how charities operate, take on challenges that help you develop new skills while giving back to the community.

Complete three activities. You could:

1. **Discover - Research a charity of your choice to find out how they go about fundraising.**
   This could be a global charity or a smaller local charity in your area.
2. **Experience - Spend a few hours assisting a local charity, experiencing first-hand the impact of their work and what funds support.**
   You could find out about how they cover costs, organise events and solve problems.
3. **Mobilise: Organise, plan, budget and execute a fundraising initiative such as a coffee morning, trivia night or sponsored event.**
   The money raised could be donated to a charity or used to raise funds for a special trip or event. Work out with a responsible adult how you will account for any money you raise and investigate if you need any extra insurance to cover this.
4. **Solve - Consider the issues faced by Charities. Would a global charity have the same problems and dilemmas as a local one?**
   What solutions could you create and offer to these problems? You could meet up with a local charity in order to put this into action.
5. **Create - Make and sell simple handmade items like bracelets, cards, or baked goods, with proceeds going to charity.**
   Set yourself a budget and consider how you will sell and distribute what you make. You are responsible for the safety of any products you sell. Work out with a responsible adult how you will account for any money you raise and investigate if you need any extra insurance to cover this.

Make it your own

Remember to think broadly and to choose activities that relate to your own interests.

If you want some further inspiration you could design and run a community event like an escape room-style challenge where participants donate to play, and funds support a cause.

Another option might be to read about or interview individuals who have raised money through innovative methods and compile their stories into a mini booklet or poster.

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Explorers Global Issues Activity Badge



Global issues affect communities everywhere, but small actions can make a big difference. Through research, hands-on experiences, and creative problem-solving, you'll learn how to take meaningful steps toward positive change, both locally and globally.

Complete three activities. You could:

1. **Discover - Interview someone from a different country or background about a global issue that affects their community.**
   Compare their perspective with your own and reflect on how geography, culture, or politics shape experiences.
2. **Experience - Volunteer at a local organisation that supports people affected by global issues, such as poverty, displacement, or climate change.**
   Spend time understanding how their work connects to international challenges and what impact it has locally.
3. **Mobilise - Organise a film screening or discussion event about a global issue you care about.**
   Choose a documentary or speaker that sparks conversation and encourage attendees to take a small action afterwards.
4. **Solve - Design and run a community workshop that teaches a practical skill linked to solving a global issue.**
   For example, you could teach upcycling to reduce waste, or basic first aid in response to health inequality.
5. **Create - Develop a digital resource like a podcast episode, infographic, or short video about a global issue.**
   Make it informative, engaging, and shareable, aiming to educate others and inspire change.

Make it your own

- In a Global world, it is important to be aware of the different challenges and issues that people across the world face.
- As Scouts, it is important for us to do whatever we can to make a positive difference and change in the world and to be active global citizens.
- Think about the ways in which you can make a real difference.
- To get the badge, you can either try some of our example activities, or come up with your own with support from a Scouts volunteer or trusted adult. The activities should be challenging for you and take a reasonable amount of time.

Guidance for Leaders

Offer flexibility and encourage Explorers to tailor their badge to their interests and skill set.
Everyone has different skills and experiences, so try to consider their starting point when choosing what they will achieve.
As a rough guide, an Activity Badge should be achievable within 3 weeks of activities.

September 2026.
Requirements can be adapted to suit each young persons abilities.

Explorers Hill Walking Activity Badge



Exploring the hills can be an exciting challenge, but preparation, safety, and care for the environment are key. Through research, hands-on experience, and creative planning, you'll build confidence in navigating and protecting these landscapes.

Complete your Hill Walking badge

1. **Take part in at least two journeys in terrain 2* areas.**
   An appropriately qualified person must accompany or supervise the journeys.

   Your journeys should have a defined purpose, like reaching a summit or completing a trail – so not just walking some distance.

2. **Complete 3 Activities. You Could:**

   a. **Discover - Research how to prepare for a multi-day hillwalking expedition in terrain one or two.**
   You could visit an outdoor shop or speak to a mountain rescue volunteer to learn about kit choices, route planning, and emergency procedures.

   b. **Experience - Take part in a hill walk in terrain one or two, contributing to navigation, pacing, and group decision-making.**
   Use a map and compass to lead a section of the route and reflect on how your choices affected the group's progress and safety.

   c. **Mobilise - Join a conservation or access-focused activity during a hill or mountain day.**
   This could include repairing footpaths, removing invasive species, or supporting habitat restoration with a local organisation.

   d. **Solve - Create and act out realistic emergency scenarios in a hill environment, using appropriate equipment and techniques.**
   Include incidents like injury, lost group members, or sudden weather changes, and evaluate how well your group responded.

   e. **Create - Create a detailed walk plan and terrain model for a challenging hill walk, using either digital or physical materials**
   Include contour interpretation, estimated timings, escape routes, and risk assessments, then test your plan on a real walk if possible.

Make it your own

- See if you can plan an aim for all of your walks. This could be about the hike itself - to reach a campsite, the peak of the mountain or a notable sight, or to undertake specific research – footpath quality, flora and fauna.
- Think about how different people can access the outdoors. Are there any ways we can support more people getting out hillwalking? Are there any groups you can work with?
- To get the badge, you can either try some of our example activities, or come up with your own with support from a Scouts volunteer or trusted adult. The activities should be challenging for you and take a reasonable amount of time.

Guidance for Leaders

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September 2026.
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Explorer Hobbies Activity Badge



Hobbies help shape who we are. Through conversations, media analysis, and hands-on challenges, you'll explore how hobbies influence identity, build community, and spark creativity. Whether you're deepening your own passion or helping someone else discover theirs, this badge is all about celebrating what we love to do—and why it matters.

Complete three activities. You could:

1. **Discover - Explore how hobbies help people define who they are.**
   Meet some people of different ages and ask them about how their hobbies have shaped their identity, values, or life choices.
2. **Experience - Explore how your hobby is portrayed in media, advertising, or pop culture.**
   Analyse how accurate, inclusive, or aspirational these portrayals are, and consider how they shape public perception and your own understanding of the hobby.
3. **Mobilise - Support someone who's new to your hobby by helping them get started and stay motivated.**
   Design a beginner-friendly activity, guide, or challenge—and reflect on what you learned by helping someone else grow.
4. **Solve - Set yourself a goal within your hobby that requires persistence and problem-solving.**
   Track your setbacks and breakthroughs, and reflect on what you learned about resilience, motivation, and growth.
5. **Create - Team up with others to create something that blends your hobbies together.**
   Whether it's a performance, product, or campaign, focus on how collaboration can spark innovation and shared pride.

Make it your own

Remember that not everyone's hobbies are the same and work in the same way. Choose something that you have an interest in.

You could also think about demonstrating/teaching your hobby to a younger/older section as part of the Young Leader Scheme.

Guidance for Leaders

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September 2026.
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Explorers Leadership Activity badge



If you enjoy stepping up, guiding others, and discovering what makes a great leader, then the Explorers' Leadership badge is for you!

Complete three activities. You could:

1. **Discover - Learn about the different types of Leadership style.**
   Take part in a quiz to find out what your leadership style is. Discuss different situations and when you might require different styles of leadership.
2. **Experience - Take an active role in leading a camp, event, project or session.**
   Think about the leadership style needed in this particular situation and try to implement it. Ask your fellow Explorers to evaluate your leadership style and to provide you with constructive feedback.
3. **Mobilise - Lead a charity campaign or activity.**
   You should think about what the outcome of your activity will be, build a team of people to support you, and plan how you will carry out the activity.
4. **Solve - Visit an escape room, and assign different members of the team a different leadership roles for different parts of the activity.**
   As a group, evaluate what leadership style was the most effective.
5. **Create - Design a leadership workshop on how to be an effective leader.**
   Remember that leadership can take many forms – it may not look like taking charge, but encouraging others or teaching a new skill.

Make it your own

We are all leaders in our own rights.
Think about leaders that inspire you. What qualities do they have that make them stand out? What kind of a leader do you want to be? What qualities do you need to develop in order to be that kind of leader? How do you develop these qualities?

If you are a Young Leader, you may find that some of your experiences meet the requirements of the Experience Principles – think about how you can apply what you've learned!

To get the badge, you can either try some of our example activities, or come up with your own with support from a Scouts volunteer or trusted adult. The activities should be challenging for you and take a reasonable amount of time.

Guidance for Leaders

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Everyone has different skills and experiences, so try to consider their starting point when choosing what they will achieve.
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Explorers Life Skills Activity Badge



Developing life skills helps you become more independent and prepared for the future. Whether you're learning practical DIY, navigating public transport, or understanding different personalities, these challenges will give you valuable real-world experience.

Complete three activities. You could:

1. **Discover – Find out how to properly wash, dry, and care for different types of clothing, including reading care labels and choosing the right settings.**
   Compare different detergents, learn how to treat common stains, and explore how good laundry habits can save money and extend the life of your clothes.
2. **Experience – Carry out simple home maintenance by assembling flat-pack furniture or equipment, following written or visual instructions.**
   Use a checklist or reflection to record how you followed instructions and how this skill supports problem-solving and independence.
3. **Mobilise - Take part in a group discussion or debate and practise active listening and clear speaking.**
   Reflect on how tone, body language, and empathy affect how your message is received.
4. **Solve - Plan how to get somewhere using only public transport.**
   What are your different options, how much will it cost and how long will the journey take? Why not challenge each other to see who can get the furthest in a certain amount of time and budget.
5. **Create – Design a personal budget for a month, including income, savings, and essential expenses.**
   Use a spreadsheet or budgeting app and include tips for staying on track and avoiding debt.

Make it your own

We use lots of different skills day to day. Some key skills are:

- Resilience
- Critical thinking
- Researching information
- Online safety
- Cooking
- Looking after your home

Thinking about the above themes, what activities could you do for this badge?

To get the badge, you can either try some of our example activities, or come up with your own with support from a Scouts volunteer or trusted adult. The activities should be challenging for you and take a reasonable amount of time.

Guidance for Leaders

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September 2026.
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Explorers Nature Activity Badge



Explore the wonders of the natural world and discover how you can help protect it. This badge challenges you to observe, understand, and take action to support wildlife and the environment.

Complete three activities. You could:

1. **Discover - Choose an area of the natural world, explore the conservation and environmental impact of that area.**
   e.g. flora, fauna. Your research could include exploring first-hand accounts, taking part in a specific study, and can be as broad or as narrow as you like!
2. **Experience - Observe the natural world around you.**
   This could be a nature walk identifying plants along your journey, or taking part in a bird or wildlife watching activity.
3. **Mobilise - Take a look at how human activity is affecting the natural world. This could be pollution, deforestation, or farming techniques.**
   You could lead a local activity to support conserving the environment, such as a river or footpath clean up, a nature count, or something else!
4. **Solve - Come up with an idea to mitigate human impact on the environment and enable humans and nature to coexist more effectively.**
   Think about things that people could include in their homes, gardens or businesses to help.
5. **Create - Design and assemble multiple wildlife structures that work together to improve the biodiversity of a chosen outdoor space.**
   You might include things like nesting boxes, bug habitats, or small mammal shelters, aim for a mix that supports a diverse community of local wildlife.

Make it your own

For some additional ideas, you could look at the Scouts for Sustainable Development Goals project, and see if there are any you could get involved in.

To get the badge, you can either try some of our example activities, or come up with your own with support from a Scouts volunteer or trusted adult. The activities should be challenging for you and take a reasonable amount of time.

Guidance for Leaders

Offer flexibility and encourage Explorers to tailor their badge to their interests and skill set.
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Explorers Performing Arts Activity Badge



Step into the spotlight and explore the world of performing arts! Whether you're acting, dancing, creating props, or planning a surprise performance, this badge will help you develop creativity, confidence, and teamwork.

Complete three activities. You could:

1. **Discover - Research the job roles that exist in the theatre.**
   Spend some time finding out the details involved in working in one of these roles. You could attend a talk by someone who works in the industry.
2. **Experience - Get a feeling for the excitement of performance by learning and playing a selection of improvisation games and acting techniques.**
   This could be done in large or small groups.
3. **Mobilise - Plan and perform a coordinated flash mob, combining drama, dance, or music to surprise and engage.**
   Consider the best setting to do this in, make sure you are safe and legal. Could you do it in front of a younger section, to communicate a message?
4. **Solve - Research, design and create a prop/props for a performance of a well-known play using only limited materials, focusing on creativity and resourcefulness.**
   How could you use your creativity to do this? Afterwards you could reflect on how easy or difficult the overall task was.
5. **Create - Write, rehearse, create props for and perform a short play with your Unit.**
   You could do this over a few meetings and could be used as an opportunity to combine skills or ideas from other aspects of this badge criteria.

Make it your own

Remember to think broadly and to choose activities that relate to your own interests.

If you want some further inspiration you could organize a tour of a local theatre or performance space or host an interactive theatre session where the audience solve a staged mystery.

To get the badge, you can either try some of our example activities, or come up with your own with support from a Scouts volunteer or trusted adult. The activities should be challenging for you and take a reasonable amount of time.

Guidance for Leaders

Offer flexibility and encourage Explorers to tailor their badge to their interests and skill set.
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As a rough guide, an Activity Badge should be achievable within 3 weeks of activities.

September 2026.
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Explorer Personal Safety Activity Badge



Staying safe means making smart choices and understanding the risks around us. Through real-life scenarios, expert insights, and practical tools, you'll explore how personal safety is shaped by decision-making, peer influence, and everyday environments. This badge helps you build confidence, awareness, and the skills to protect yourself and support others.

Complete three activities. You could:

1. **Discover - Compare how teenagers and adults think about risk and safety in everyday situations.**
   Explore how the teenage brain responds to risk, reward, and decision-making, especially when emotions or peer pressure are involved.
2. **Experience - Show how to manage risk for an activity or event that young people take part in.**
   Learn how to identify potential hazards, assess the level of risk, and make decisions that balance safety with independence and fun.
3. **Mobilise - Meet or shadow frontline workers like youth workers, paramedics, police officers, or rail staff to learn about real safety issues affecting teenagers.**
   Find out which incidents they deal with most often and what advice they give to help young people stay safe.
4. **Solve - Learn and practise decision-making tools like exit plans, refusal skills, and knowing when to ask for help.**
   Use real-life scenarios like being offered a drink at a party, receiving a risky message online, or seeing a friend take a dangerous dare to explore how these tools can help you stay safe.
5. **Create - Design a toolkit to help other young people manage risk and stay safe in real-life and online situations.**
   Your toolkit could include things like check-in routines, trusted contact lists, or tips for handling peer pressure.

Make it your own

- Love storytelling? Create a comic strip or short video showing how to handle a tricky situation.
- Into tech? Build a digital toolkit or app to help others stay safe online.
- Pick a format that works for you—and help others stay safe, your way!

To earn your badge, you can either try some of our example activities, or come up with your own with support from a Scouts volunteer or trusted adult. The activities should be challenging for you and take a reasonable amount of time.

Guidance for Leaders

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September 2026.
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Explorers Pioneering Activity Badge



Put your problem-solving skills to the test and discover the power of pioneering! From building bridges to designing useful structures, this badge will challenge you to think creatively and work as a team to bring your ideas to life.

Complete your Pioneering badge

1. **Take part in at least one large scale Pioneering project.**
   You should complete your project over the course of a day.

2. **Complete 3 Activities. You Could:**

   a. **Discover - Investigate how pioneering projects or inventions have become essential to modern architecture.**
   For example, Da Vinci's self supporting bridge.

   b. **Experience - Take part in a pioneering project.**
   This could be a large structure made within a team, or a smaller structure made solo.

   c. **Mobilise - Research a pioneered structure and lead a team to plan and complete its construction.**
   Consider some ways to enable accessibility when building your project.

   d. **Solve - Use rubber bands and lolly sticks (or similar materials) to create a bridge or a similar project.**
   How much weight can it hold? How could you make it stronger? What engineering techniques could you use?

   e. **Create - Design a useful pioneered structure and build it in real life.**
   You should include drawings, a scale model, and a guide on how to create it. Some examples could be a washing up station or a pot hanger for a fire.

Make it your own

- You might prefer to work in a team or alone for your projects.
- You can also talk to your leaders and work with your peers to complete this.
- Think about things that interest you, as well as how much you can manage between school/work.
- To get the badge, you can either try some of our example activities, or come up with your own with support from a Scouts volunteer or trusted adult. The activities should be challenging for you and take a reasonable amount of time.

Guidance for Leaders

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September 2026.
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Explorers Problem Solver Activity Badge



This badge helps you build your problem-solving and teamwork skills by exploring real issues, taking part in challenging activities, and creating your own solutions. You'll learn more about your community and global challenges, work with others to think critically, and take action to make a difference, while reflecting on what you learn along the way.

Complete three activities. You could:

1. **Discover - Identify a real issue affecting your local area, such as housing, transport, youth services, or environmental concerns.**
   Speak to people impacted by the problem and research what's being done or could be done to address it, including contacting local organisations or decision-makers.
2. **Experience - Take part in a complex team-based challenge that requires communication, logic, and creative thinking.**
   This could be an escape room, puzzle trail, or simulation game. Reflect on how your group worked together, what strategies were effective, and what you'd do differently next time.
3. **Mobilise - Choose a global issue - like climate change, racial inequality, or access to education and take meaningful local action to address it.**
   Use the UN Sustainable Development Goals to guide you and document how your action supports wider change, supporting a more equitable and inclusive movement.
4. **Solve - Participate in a structured problem-solving activity such as a mock trial, ethical debate, or engineering design challenge.**
   Use critical thinking and teamwork to explore different solutions, and reflect on the consequences of each choice.
5. **Create - Invent a problem-solving activity for others to complete - this could be a logic puzzle, roleplay scenario, or digital challenge using coding or electronics.**
   Test it with your Unit and gather feedback to improve its clarity, difficulty, and engagement, then take it to another group for them to solve.

Make it your own

- Problem solving can be found in many different styles of working and activities, so feel free to think outside the box and let Explorers choose something that is related to their own interests.
- There might be benefit to exploring traditional problem solving challenges such as egg drop or spaghetti and marshmallow towers, or thinking less literally, such as debating the trolley problem, or considering how we look to solve climate change.
- To get the badge, you can either try some of our example activities, or come up with your own with support from a Scouts volunteer or trusted adult. The activities should be challenging for you and take a reasonable amount of time.

Guidance for Leaders

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Explorers S.T.E.M Activity Badge

Explore science, technology, engineering, and maths through practical tasks, from learning how engines work to creating a renewable energy gadget for camp.

Complete three activities. You could:

1. **Discover - Investigate how gas turbines power everyday life.**
   Choose a real-world example (like aircraft or electricity generation) and explain how gas turbines are used, why they are efficient, and what impact they have.
2. **Experience - Take a closer look at an engine and learn how to care for it.**
   You could find out what the main parts do, see how they work together, and try a simple maintenance task like checking oil or cleaning a filter.
3. **Mobilise - Visit or start a community project that repairs or upcycles broken items.**
   You could help fix something that doesn't work, learn how repairs reduce waste, or encourage others to join in.
4. **Solve - Work out how much energy a campsite would need for one night and plan how to supply it.**
   You could calculate the power for lights, cooking, and charging devices, then decide if batteries, solar panels, or generators would meet the demand.
5. **Create - Build a camp gadget that is powered by renewable energy.**
   You could design something like a phone charger using a small solar panel or a light powered by a mini wind turbine.

Make it your own

- Science and Technology is a very broad area.
- Try to consider different aspects for each of your activity ideas and don't forget to look at how quickly science is changing.
- Nanoparticles are revolutionising drug delivery and screening programmes so do consider things which are at the forefront of Science and Technology for your research.
- To get the badge, you can either try some of our example activities, or come up with your own with support from a Scouts volunteer or trusted adult. The activities should be challenging for you and take a reasonable amount of time.

Guidance for Leaders

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September 2026.
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Explorers Space Activity badge



If you've a passion for the wonders of the universe, are fascinated by the next steps of space exploration or just enjoy looking at the night sky, then the Explorers Space badge is the one for you.

Complete three activities. You could:

1. **Discover - Explore first-hand accounts from people who have been involved in the space industry or witnessed its impact.**
   You could speak with someone working in the field or try and talk to someone who watched the moon landing on television.
2. **Experience - Grow a plant without using soil.**
   Find out how things are grown in space and why we might need to.
3. **Mobilise - Find out about light pollution and how this can affect our exploration of space.**
   Find out about a campaign near you and do something to help them.
4. **Solve - Find out about satellites and space rovers, you could practice controlling something from a distance and learn why this is useful.**
5. **Create - Using a medium of your choice showcase something about space that interests you.**
   You may want to take photos, record a video, compose music or complete a piece of artwork.

Make it your own

- The universe is full of wonders waiting to be explored, so why not dive into something that excites you and uncover how it all works in the vast expanse of space?
- To get the badge, you can either try some of our example activities, or come up with your own with support from a Scouts volunteer or trusted adult. The activities should be challenging for you and take a reasonable amount of time.

Guidance for Leaders

Offer flexibility and encourage Explorers to tailor their badge to their interests and skill set.
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September 2026.
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Explorers Sports and Fitness Activity Badge



Get active and challenge yourself to explore the world of sports and fitness. This badge encourages you to try new activities, learn about different sports, and even create your own!

Complete three activities. You could:

1. **Discover - Choose three sports that interest you and research them. What training regimes do they have? What's different about them, and what's similar?**
   Could you talk to someone who takes part in these sports at a competitive level? Think about the differences in accessibility, and how some of these enable accessibility.
2. **Experience - Take part in a new sport.**
   Try some of the techniques and exercises from the sport, and try a game or race that's common within the sport.
3. **Mobilise - Teach a sport of your choice to a group.**
   This could be your Unit, a section you are a Young Leader at, or a group of people uninvolved in Scouts entirely. When teaching your sport, think about how you can communicate the benefits of the sport to those young people, whether physical, social or mental. Make sure you consider all the accessibility requirements of the people you work with.
4. **Solve - Choose a sport that interests you and find out if the equipment can be made either, in a more environmental way, or to be more accessible to someone with a physical disability.**
   You could make a prototype to show your findings.
5. **Create - Come up with a new sport, design what it looks like, how you play, and teach another group/section it.**
   This could include a rule book, equipment designs and an accessibility guide.

Make it your own

- Appreciating and taking part in sports are unique to you and your interests.
- You might find it more interesting to look into a sports teams marketing, or to fundraise money for a local sports group.
- You may want to work with peers to complete this badge, or consult leaders for advice.
- To get the badge, you can either try some of our example activities, or come up with your own with support from a Scouts volunteer or trusted adult. The activities should be challenging for you and take a reasonable amount of time.

Guidance for Leaders

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September 2026.
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Explorers Survival Skills Activity Badge



If you're ready to test your resilience, learn essential survival skills, and take on the challenge of thriving in the wild, then then try the Explorers' Survival Skills badge!

Complete three activities. You could:

1. **Discover - Research and demonstrate different methods of building and lighting fires in outdoor environments, including their advantages and risks.**
   Compare techniques used in survival situations, explore fire safety protocols, and investigate how fire regulations vary across locations and land types.
2. **Experience - Take part in a survival camp or outdoor challenge where you build your own shelter, cook over fire, and carry essential gear.**
   Focus on using minimal equipment and adapting to changing conditions like weather, terrain, or limited resources.
3. **Mobilise - Connect with organisations that help people prepare for or respond to emergencies, such as search and rescue, fire services, or humanitarian charities and find some way to support them.**
   Volunteer, fundraise, or help raise awareness about local risks and how people can stay safe.
4. **Solve -Act out a realistic survival situation, such as getting lost while hiking or being stranded after a storm, demonstrate how you'd respond.**
   Use only the equipment you'd normally carry and include navigation, first aid, shelter, and emergency communication.
5. **Create - Research and build a survival kit tailored to a particular environment or emergency, such as a winter storm, wildfire, or remote expedition.**
   Present your kit as a poster, video, or digital guide, explaining your choices and how each item could be used.

Make it your own

- Remember to think broadly and link it to something that already interests you.
- You could adapt the requirements to focus on one or more specific survival skill. You may also decide to lean towards traditional survival skills, or modern day ones, rather than completing a mix of both.
- Think about your own capabilities and how you can manage it alongside work/school.
- To get the badge, you can either try some of our example activities, or come up with your own with support from a Scouts volunteer or trusted adult. The activities should be challenging for you and take a reasonable amount of time.

Guidance for Leaders

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Explorers Teamwork Activity Badge



If you enjoy working with others, building strong connections, and tackling challenges as a team, then try the Explorers' Teamwork badge!

Complete three activities. You could:

1. **Discover - Find out about a local team which is working in your community or local Scouting area.**
   This might be a local Scout activity team or District Leadership team or it could be a local sports team, litter picking team or a community team like those running a foodbank.
2. **Experience - Spend a day working as part of a well-established team and find out about the important roles within their team.**
   This might be helping an activity team at a large camp, joining a local litter picking team or supporting a community group at one of their fundraising events.
3. **Mobilise - Form a team with some people from another Unit in your local area and work to achieve a task locally.**
   Think about how you'll divide the roles, how you'll communicate effectively, how you'll keep each other accountable, and how you'll resolve any issues.
4. **Solve - Run three different team building activities.**
   After running them, discuss any challenges you had with your group, and consider how you might overcome these. Think about the need for effective communication and listening skills.
5. **Create - Produce a team-led presentation or demonstration, that teaches others a skill activity or idea.**
   Decide together how to split the planning, preparation, and delivery so that everyone contributes and the final result reflects the whole team's effort.

Make it your own

- There are other skills needed within teams and any of these could be investigated in parts of this badge. All parts of the badge could focus on one aim or you could dip into other teams including scouting activity teams to find out about how different ones work.
- To get the badge, you can either try some of our example activities, or come up with your own with support from a Scouts volunteer or trusted adult. The activities should be challenging for you and take a reasonable amount of time.

Guidance for Leaders

Offer flexibility and encourage Explorers to tailor their badge to their interests and skill set.
Everyone has different skills and experiences, so try to consider their starting point when choosing what they will achieve.
As a rough guide, an Activity Badge should be achievable within 3 weeks of activities.

September 2026.
Requirements can be adapted to suit each young persons abilities.

Explorer Try New Things Activity Badge



Trying something new can be exciting, challenging, and transformative. Through shared experiences, creative challenges, and personal reflection, you'll discover how stepping outside your comfort zone builds confidence, resilience, and connection. This badge is all about embracing the unfamiliar—and growing through it.

Complete three activities. You could:

1. **Discover - Explore why stepping outside your comfort zone matters for personal growth, innovation, and resilience.**
   In a group discussion or personal reflection, share stories of when you or others took a risk, what was learned, and how it shaped your confidence or identity.
2. **Experience - Pair up with someone who has a different skill or interest, and teach each other something new.**
   Reflect on how learning from others can broaden your perspective and build connections.
3. **Mobilise - Work with a younger section or different youth group to design and run an activity that encourages them to try something new or challenging.**
   Support them through the experience, offer encouragement, and reflect together on what everyone learned about facing fears and growing through new experiences.
4. **Solve - Design a relay or challenge where each stage requires the group to adapt to a new rule, tool, or environment.**
   Think about how quickly and effectively you adapted, and what strategies helped the group thrive in uncertainty.
5. **Create - Develop a resource, event, or story that inspires others to embrace new experiences and thrive in uncertainty.**
   This could be a guide to overcoming fear of failure, a showcase of innovation stories, or a toolkit for building resilience through trying new things.

Make it your own

You could explorer options like learning to paint, coding, or a taking on a new sport. You might also step out of your comfort zone socially by joining a new club, volunteering, or talking to someone you don't usually interact with. Even small changes, like tasting a different type of food or taking a new route to school, can open up fresh experiences.

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Explorers Water Activities Activity Badge



If you love being on the water, trying new challenges, and learning how to stay safe while having fun, then the Explorers' Water Activities badge is for you!

Complete your Pioneering badge

1. **Take part in at least two activities that take place on or in the water while earning this badge.**
   The activity should be supervised by an appropriately qualified person.

2. **Complete 3 Activities. You Could:**

   a. **Discover - Find out about the history of a water activity, or an inspirational person who takes part in water activities.**
   You could talk to a local instructor about how they started in the activity.

   b. **Experience - Plan a 2-3 hour Journey for a chosen water activity, then carry it out with an appropriately qualified person.**
   This could be a journey along a river, or a fun session for you and your Unit.

   c. **Mobilise - Learn about water quality issues. Find out about a campaign near you and take part in an activity to support the work they do.**
   This could be water quality testing at your local venue, taking part in a river clean up or helping to raise awareness.

   d. **Solve - Think about what could happen if things go wrong. Practice some rescue techniques and find out how to keep each other safe in water activities.**

   e. **Create - Design a craft or equipment you might use in water activities.**
   Think about the properties of your craft or equipment. You could even build your craft, either as a model or full sized, and try it out on some water!

Make it your own

- Do you already do a water activity? How could you share your knowledge with others?
- Could you undertake a personal award, permit or qualification in a water activity?
- What are the mental health benefits to water activities. Can you present these to other scouts?
- To get the badge, you can either try some of our example activities, or come up with your own with support from a Scouts volunteer or trusted adult. The activities should be challenging for you and take a reasonable amount of time.

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