



A time-traveling adventure

This story should prompt the participants to run through the ladder as they hear key words like **Beaver, Venture, Brownsea Island, Badges, Squirrel, Camping, Cub, Explorer and Network**

Once upon a time, a group of adventurous Scouts stumbled upon a magical time machine during a game of hide and seek at their meeting place. It whizzed and whirled with excitement. One Scout, unable to resist, pressed the shiny button, and with a rumble and a whoosh, they found themselves on **Brownsea Island** in 1907.

That's Baden-Powell! This must be the first Scouts camp!" one Scout whispered in awe.

They watched as the boy scouts pitched their tents and learned the basics of **camping**. "They have neckers, just like us!" one exclaimed, just as the machine rumbled again.

"Oh no, we're time-traveling again!" another Scout whispered, and with a whirl, they were pulled into the time vortex. 'Bye bye **Brownsea Island!**' they whispered.

They landed next in 1916 and saw Scouts in dark green hats and jumpers. "It's the **Cubs!**" one whispered excitedly. They watched as the Cubs practiced building a raft and earned **badges** for swimming, artist, and athlete.

"Look! They've all got their Gold awards! We should work on ours when we get back," said one of the Scouts, but before they could see if the **Cubs** went **camping**, the time machine rumbled and whisked them away.

In 1963, the Scouts landed in Northern Ireland.

'What's this?' One Scout said, as they hid in the corner of the room.

'I think it's the first Little Brothers groups. They become the **Beaver** Scouts in 1986.'

'Why are they called **Beavers**?'

'There's no time to find out, we're off again!' whispered another Scout and they were zapped back into the time machine.

This time, they landed in 1967 and saw **Rover Scouts** and **Senior Scouts** coming together and **camping** as **Venture** Scouts on **Brownsea Island**, playing Capture the Flag.

'They're much older than us!' one of the Scouts whispered, 'And much faster than us!'

'Yes, maybe that's why they were called the Senior Scouts' another replied, 'But they're **Venture** Scouts now. They'll get renamed to **Explorer** Scouts soon.'

'That's a lot of change!' said one of the scouts just as the machine started up again. This time landing in 1976.

'Look! It's the first girls joining **Venture** Scouts,' one whispered, 'they're making their Promise at camp!'



'Were their girls in all the sections? I didn't see any before?' one asked.

'My mum said she joined in 1992,' another replied, 'some groups let both boys and girls join, but it wasn't really made official until 2007.'

'Oh, we're off again! Do they turn to **Explorers** now?' another shouted as they jumped into the time vortex.

'No, it's the **Beavers** again! They're becoming official. It must be 1986!' one smiled.

'I bet these they can't wait to go **camping** and earn **badges**, just like us.'

The time vortex was speeding up now. They didn't even get to watch the **Beavers** finish joining Scouts when they were zapped again, and the time vortex dropped them in 2002.

'I think it's the **Venture** Scouts again.'

'No, it's 2002. The **Venture** Scouts are becoming **Explorer** Scouts and the Scout **Network**.'

'What's the difference?'

'**Explorers** is after Scouts, they're 15 to 18 years old, but **Network** are the oldest, they are 18 to 25 years old!

'They look like they've got a lot of awards to get. I hope I stay until **Network**, think of all those **badges**!'

Zzzzz' 'Brrrrr' the time machine rumbled - '**Sqqqquirreellllsssss**' it said, sounding like a robot.

'Were going to see **Squirrels**?' one Scout said, confused.

The time machine whirled them forward to 2022. They landed at a **Squirrel** Scout camp, where there were lots of happy faces, cake and red jumpers.

'Oh, **Squirrel** Scouts!' the confused Scout said, 'that makes more sense.'

But, as they reached for the cake, the time machine grumbled and spluttered once more. Soon, they were back in their meeting place.

'Where did you all hide?' they heard the **Beaver** volunteer say as they stepped into the room full of Scouts, 'It feels like you've been gone years!' they laughed.

'I think we might have been!' one of them giggled, wiping cake from the **Squirrel** party away from their mouth.

'We thought you'd gone to **Brownsea Island** and back!' the leader said.

'Is there a **badge** for time travel? If not? Do you think we could make one?' replied the Scout.

"I'm sure we can come up with some ideas at the campfire, did you remember you camp blanket?"

"I sure did! And I can't wait until I'm an **Explorer** or **Network** and it'll be full of **badges**!" said the scout, the leader smiled and off they all went, to sing songs and make s'mores, just like to Scouts in 1907.