



## Activity

# WALK THE WALK

Raise awareness and funds by planning a hike that mirrors the distances covered daily by those in the developing world

**ShAre.**  
Send us your  
journal or video!  
Turn to page 3  
for details

### Suitable for Cubs, Scouts and Explorers

#### You will need:

- Maps

Think about how far you have to walk to access clean water – probably not much farther than your kitchen, right? How about healthcare – how far is it to your nearest doctor's surgery or hospital? What about your Scouts – how far do they walk to school? Children in developing countries walk miles to access basic necessities such as safe drinking water, medicine and an education, and now you and your Group can raise awareness by planning your own hikes for the same distances. You can even use it to raise funds for a relevant charity or raising awareness of an issue and asking people to join a specific campaign.

### Instructions

- 1 Ask your young people to choose which distance they'd like to hike – the distance to school, water or healthcare (see right) – and encourage them to research the issue associated with the distance they've chosen.
- 2 Help them plan a hike in their local area that covers that distance using the maps you've provided. For guidance, head to [scouts.org.uk/a-z](https://scouts.org.uk/a-z). Ask them to think of the items they would need to carry with them for a safe, comfortable hike, eg drinks, snacks, waterproofs etc.
- 3 Next, explain to your young people that the children undertaking these hikes in the developing world would not only be covering the distance twice – both there and back – but also with





5km

THE DISTANCE MANY NIGERIAN  
CHILDREN HAVE TO WALK TO  
GET TO SCHOOL



6km

THE AVERAGE DISTANCE CHILDREN  
IN AFRICA AND ASIA MUST WALK  
TO ACCESS WATER



8km

THE DISTANCE SOME PEOPLE IN  
WEST AFRICA MUST WALK TO  
ACCESS HEALTHCARE

additional challenges. Those in search of water would carry up to 20l of water back with them, while children walking to school often don't have appropriate footwear and travel instead in flip-flops. And people trying to reach healthcare will be walking while injured or feeling unwell. Ask them to think about the difference these circumstances would make to walking that distance.

**4** Now you can all venture out on their five, six or eight-kilometre hike! They could even simulate the additional challenges faced by those in the developing world by pledging to carry a weighty backpack for their walk. If you decide to raise funds, you could document your experience in a journal or video and share it with everyone who has sponsored your young people.

## TIME NEEDED

60 minutes plus hike

## BADGE



GO Outdoors  
partners the Scout  
Hikes Away Staged  
Activity Badge



A Million Hands  
and Community  
Impact Staged  
Badge



Global Issues Activity Badge

## PARTNER



## OUTCOMES

Your young people will learn about the difficulties faced by children in the developing world, and experience a taste of them first hand. This will enable them to draw a comparison between this activity and their own day-to-day experiences, as well as using the exercise as a fundraising tool.

## TAKE IT FURTHER

This is a great opportunity to discuss our A Million Hands partner WaterAid and all the valuable work it does to bring clean water, sanitation and hygiene to people across the world. Find its water resource pack at [amillionhands.org.uk](http://amillionhands.org.uk). And don't forget World Water Day on 22 March!

## MORE INFORMATION

To find out more about GO Outdoors, visit [scouts.org.uk/gooutdoors](http://scouts.org.uk/gooutdoors).