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# Foreword:

Youth shaped scouting is part of our everyday programme, this time provides an opportunity to really focus on supporting young people and adult volunteers to embed this traditional value and to celebrate great examples of Youth Shaped Scouting in practice.

Youth Shaped:

Young people working in partnership with adults in Scouting, has always been something we have been proud of. Youth Shaped Scouting not only improves the way we Scout, but also the young people involved. Learning to speak up, be heard and work towards improving something you are passionate about is an incredible learning experience for the youngest Beaver right the way through to our eldest Network member.

This resource is full of ideas to inspire you to achieve these outcomes at a local level and District level; where the most impact will be had on our young people. It is a working document and we want to continually add new activity ideas to it. If you have created a new way to gather feedback and opinions from your young people while scouting at home please let us know. This resource is full of edited activities which are suitable for scouting at home. Please don't forget to follow all the POR rules.

I hope you find this resource useful during this time,

Toby Hammond

West Yorkshire Youth Commissioner

# Peer leadership:

Providing opportunities for peer leadership is something we as a movement have always done well. Lord Baden-Powell put peer leadership at the heart of Scouting when it began and we need to make sure it stays there going forward, by celebrating what we do well and looking at where we can improve.

Peer leadership can still happen join this time, by still having log chew, sixer and patrol meetings. They can happen online using the technology available.

There are lot of resource available online for every section:

<https://members.scouts.org.uk/supportresources/search/?cat=767.867>

We have provided you with some fun and inspiring activities in this resource to support you in continue to work towards successful peer leadership in your section. Activities we think are appropriate to be run through peer leadership are marked with PL on the page. However, we do understand we can not do as much peer leadership as we would normally do at this time.

PL



# Activity inspirations:

The pages that follow are full of ideas, old and new, on how to make #youshape Scouting happen during this time, making it easy and engaging for both adult volunteers and young people. There are ideas to use across all sections ranging from 10 minute games to long term project planning. Some of the activities in this resource have been taken from Activity Inspirations 2017 and then edited to make them work for online scouting and other are brand new.

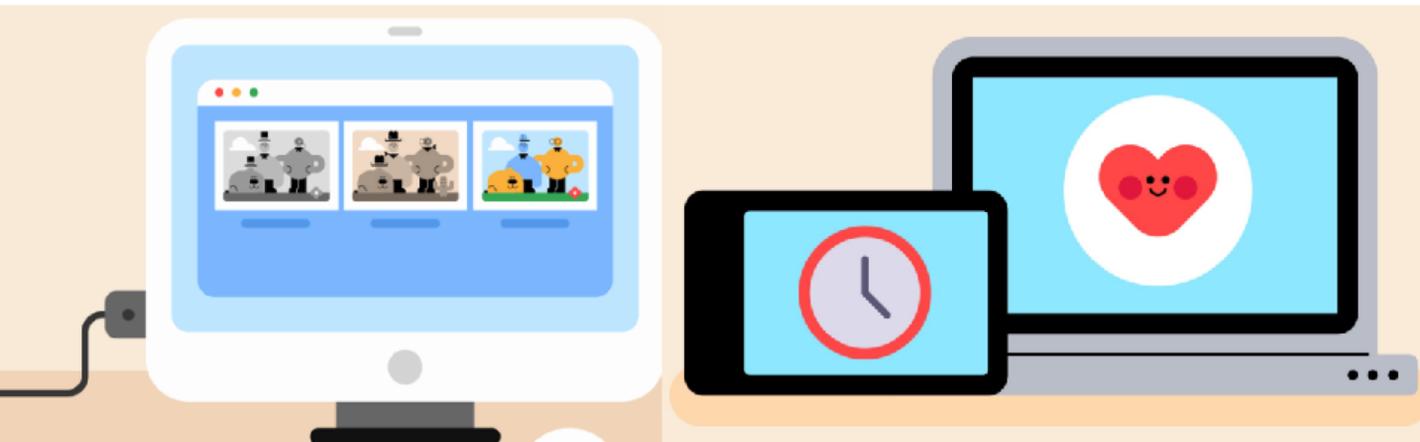
Each activity has a suggestion of what to do with the information or feedback gathered as a result. It is important to choose activities based on the outcome and what you want to achieve as a result.

Please don't forget to follow all The Scout Association information about Scouting online, which can be found on the link below and always follow POR:

<https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/scouts-at-home/staying-safe-online/>

Lastly, make sure you let your Local Youth Commissioner know how you are getting involved. Invite them to a virtual meeting or ask them for advice on how to do an activity. They have a wealth of knowledge and are there to support you.

Don't forget, if you have any more activity suggestions to include, then please let us know via email [yc@wyscouts.org.uk](mailto:yc@wyscouts.org.uk)



# Scouting Sketch at Home

Resources needed:

Pens

Paper

Ask your young people to draw or write their ideas onto it.

You should set a theme for the sketches or ask a question for them to answer.

For example:

-what adventurous activities would you like to do when we come back to face to face?

-what would the best virtual meeting look like?

Allow the young to be creative and to think big.

Remember you can adapt those out of reach ideas into something more achievable.

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# Car Park

Resources needed:

Post it / paper

Pens or pencils

This is perfect if you have a group or section that likes to go off topic.

- 1) Identify an area to be your car park, this could be a board behind you on the wall, if you did your meeting online.
- 2) If the discussion gets stuck or bogged down or the young people have questions, write it on a post it note and place it on the car park.
- 3) Explain that you have 'parked' the item, so there will be no more discussion on it now, but you will come back to it at the end of the session.
- 4) At the end of the session go through the post it and answer any questions. Save other topics for discussion at your next meeting.

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# Brainstorm Box

Resources needed:  
Object from their home

Ask each person to come to the online meeting with a random item, this could be something they use or something they like.

Then each person shows the rest of the group their object. Then they have to generate two/three programme suggestions from the item.

Encourage them to think laterally e.g. the toothbrush might suggest; teeth; a virtual visit from a dentist or brush; art, a virtual visit an art gallery. Some ideas may be practical, some may not, this is not important you are trying to encourage free thinking.

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# Agree- Disagree

Resources needed:

Questions

Thumb

This game is the ideal opportunity to gather the opinions of your section on ideas as well as sparking debate between peers.

In advance prepare the questions you want your section to agree or disagree on.

Place the agree/ disagree cards at different ends of the room

Ask the young people to stand at the centre of the room.

Read out your first statement and ask the young people to move to either disagree or agree.

REMIND the group that there is no right or wrong answer to each question.

Ask one young person to explain why they have chosen to stand where they have. Ask if anyone from the opposing option would like to respond.

REMEMBER to ensure that it continues to be a discussion and does not become confrontational.

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# You said .... We did!

Resources needed:

None

This can all depend on how you wish to let your young people know how you have listened to them. You could use an active display, a newsletter or make it part of your review process.

There are no real instructions for how this should take place as it should reflect the best way for your section to understand they have been listened to.

You could have it as a section on every log chew, sixer meeting or PL forum. Produce a newsletter or social media post with information on that the young people could read or set up a newsletter ready for whole groups to read.

It's in your hands, to show your young people that they said....  
You did....

This is great to use in conjunction with #youshape pledges.

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# Video Diary

Resources needed:

Camera

Someone to edit the clips

Good quality phone or camera someone you operate the video camera and edit the clips afterwards

Ask the young people to set up a dairy room chair. Note, if you ask young people to give views to camera in front of a large audience, they may give different views to those they may give in a more private environment. Therefore you could email some questions to the parents and get them to film it and send it in and then show it on an evening.

Young people then talk to camera and give views on any subject you like from general views on scouting to specific opinions on how an activity went, to views on structures or badges or recent news items ect.

You can direct the whole thing by providing questions to answer or you can just let them freestyle. Be clear about the objective or the exercise beforehand and select your format to suit.

Top tips:

-this is a great way of making memories for the young person to remember their scouting experiences and a great keepsake to refer back to.

-we would love to be able to share there experiences far and wide so don't forget to share with us using [yc@wyscouts.org.uk](mailto:yc@wyscouts.org.uk) or #wysyouth.

-use the phone landscape not portrait so it can be easily used afterwards.

-make sure you have parental or guardian permissions.

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# Emojis

Resources needed:

Paper

Pens/ pencils

1) ask the young people to make emojis or print them out.

2) ask the young people a question and see what they answer.

For example:

-how do you feel about doing an online quiz next week?

-do you like to take part in Virtual Big Camp?

Make sure you act upon what your young people say or tell them why it is not possible at this time.

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# Voting Methods

Resources needed:

Dots            Flash cards

Paper            Computer

Voting is a great visual way to get young peoples opinions quickly and easily. Mix it up and sue some of the following methods.

1) dot voting- create a list of possible answers in response to a question. Write the question and possible answers to a question. Write the question and possible answers up on a piece of flipchart paper, leaving space next to each option for the young people to add sticky dots. Then go around the group and add the sticky dot

2) Vote with flash cards- ask a question and get your young people to hold up card for agree or disagree. Then you can see which has the most.

3 online form- you could send out a form such a google form or money survey. You can send it out before a meeting and then tell the young people the results at the meeting

4 if older, you could do a twitter or Facebook poll to get the answers to a question you ask.

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# End of Meeting Review

Resources needed:

Nothing

Do you ever get the feeling that your young people get tired of hearing you talk? Well why not get them to do the talking?

At the end of your meeting is a great way to do a quick review of an activity or at the end of an item.

Some helpful sentence starts might be:

- what do you think of....
- What is your opinion of.....
- What are your feelings about .....
- What do you feel about ....

This will be useful information when doing your programme planning and also help you to make changes if you do the same activity again.

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# Talking Stick

Resources needed:

Talking stick

Decide as a group on the item that you wish to use as a talking stick. This could be anything at all as long as the whole group agrees and everyone has one they can use. This could be a Necker or pen.

Decide when it will be used- just during discussion activities or all session.

Decide how it will be used. Will you have to raise your hand to have the stick? Will it be passed in turn?

Then start passing your stick virtually.

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# Pizza Review!

Resources needed:

Pens

cardboard

Out of large piece of cardboard cut-out large circles which can be used for the activity. Cut the pizza into slices, as many as you need for one per person (you may need more than one pizza).

Each person will need a cardboard pizza slices, lots of toppings and a pen.

Each topping should represent a different emotion:

-pepperoni for things that are liked about the section- friends, fun, games, trips out.

-pineapple for new things that they would like to do- programme ideas, fundraising, recruiting new members, helping in the community, decorating the hut.

You could also add mushrooms for things they might like to change.

The young people should discuss the toppings together and then write their answers on the group slice. It will be helpful to have a leader or young leader to stimulate discussion.

Once each person has had time to make their pizza slices they can put them all together to understand that everybody is given the chance to feedback and have a say.

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# Jigsaw

Resources needed:

Pens / pencils

Printable Jigsaw piece

- 1) send out via email the printable jigsaw pieces .
- 2) decorate the jigsaw pieces using drawing and writing on a theme, example of this is:
  - Favorite scouting activity
  - How to improve scouting
  - What they would like to do next

This can then be sent back to the leader to make a big jigsaw and see what the young person where things.

The leader can then act upon this and to take to the young people about what they have found out about it.

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# Market Stalls

Resources needed:

Pens

Paper

The idea of this activity, young people should set up a market stall advertising an activity idea/ evening that they are 'selling' for the next term of meetings.

The young people should work together to choose which activities to plan and advertise to the other. They need to make posters and banners showing off their ideas and for the older sections they should go away and research the cost and logistics involved. Once everyone has set up their display and presented it, each young person should have something to vote with, whether this be a Ping-Pong ball, fake money or something similar. This could even just be in the chat.

Once the activity is complete the votes should be counted and as many as possible of the ideas should be used in the programme.

Top tip: leaders should be on hand to 'quality control' activities, making sure they aren't unrealistic or too expensive. If this is the case, the leader should explain to the reasons why they wouldn't be able to do a particular activity.

# Hot Air Balloon

Resources needed:

Flip Chart Paper    Post its

Pens                      Hot Air Balloon Template (downloadable from scout beta)

Decide on the project you are planning beforehand using one of our idea generating activities.

Display the template for everyone to see. Then get participants to give you ideas of what to write or draw on post-its and stick them on the relevant bit of the flipchart.

- 1) on the balloon- issues and factors that will be needed for the proposal to fly
- 2) in the basket- write the names of people or organizations who can help and support your aims
- 3) ropes- what will hold it back, before the balloon/ project has started?
- 4) clouds- what could push the balloon off course? (once the project has started)
- 5) making it fly- above the balloon write factors that will make things happen and work

# Would you Rather

Resources needed:

Appropriate activity equipment

Permit holders

Would you rather is a fun, quick warm-up activity that's ideal for getting young people talking about giving an opinion about something serious, or silly. Come up with some would you either questions, or get the young people to think of some, but check them before they are asked?

For example: would you rather...

- Do a house hunt or do a quiz
- Do the gardening badge or the artist badge
- Do the writing from home or key worker coloring poster

# Word Cloud

Resources needed:

Big sheet of paper  
pens

Get the young people to think about words to describe something. For example:

- How do you describe scouting?
- what is the best activity you have done?
- say your best badge you have done?

They can give you them and you can write them out into a cloud. Then go through them and look for themes and things they like.

Make sure you act upon what your young people say or tell them why it is not possible at this time.

# Debate Night

Resources needed:

None

Depending on the number of people in the unit split into teams of around 8 people. Pick a topic, statement or question that has an open answer or a for or against stance.

For example:

Should we have a virtual disco night?

What name should we give our new unit?

We should spend some unit funds towards a trip when this is over rather than a camp?

Give the team 30 minutes (or more) to plan and research their topic or even before the meeting. There are many ways to do this bit a suggestion could be that the team present their case and then listen to the opposing team. You then could open it up for teams to ask each other questions and debate the points made. Using the mute button may help everyone to listen to one person during this.

At the end a panel of judges ( or participants that have not been involved in the prep) will impartially and independently decide on the winning team. It is important to have a chair person to organize and to facilitate the debate.

# Diamond Formation

Resources needed:

List of priorities   Pens or pencils

Post its                      Formation template (downloadable from scout beta)

Ask each young person to arrange their topic ideas in a diamond formation with the priority at top, two in 2<sup>nd</sup>, three in 3<sup>rd</sup>, two in 4<sup>th</sup> and their lowest at the bottom. They can move the ideas around until they reach an order with which they all agree.

For a consensus to work the young people must understand that everyone must not have an objection. So the majority may agree, but if one person disagrees then this is not a consensus. The people disagreeing must remember that the aim is cooperation and not to be argumentative.

It might be useful to emphasise that ideas that come towards the bottom of the formation are the ninth most important issue and not the least.

# Dragons Den!

Resources needed:

Task brief            Panel of judges

Pens                    Paper

The aim of this activity is to allow the young people to think about the finer details of an activity they want to do and pitch it in a competition style event.

Give them some guidance in the form of a brief. For example:

- how can we make the district more youth shaped?
- what new adventurous activity should we try?
- which international camp should we attend?

Then break it down into the components you want them to consider, such as:

- pricing
- transport
- location

Split them into small teams to brainstorm ideas and choose one to pitch. Internet access may be useful to research ideas too. Encourage them to be unique and creative with their pitch so they stand out to the judges!

After the allotted time have each team take it in turns to pitch their idea and plan to the panel of judges. Your judges could include local business people or adults in scouting they haven't met before. This would be a perfect event to invite your Local Youth Commissioner down to.

The ultimate prize for the winning team would be to see their idea in action!

# Permit Evening

Resources needed:

Appropriate activity equipment

Permit holders

Find out what activities your young people are interested in learning more about or that they already have some level of experience doing.

Invite appropriate local volunteers to come and help run practical skills sessions online and give the young people a taste at the sort of activities. You could choose to run several different activities in one evening or concentrate on different activities each night over a few weeks.

At the end of the practical skills sessions, make sure that the young people understand the next steps.

- how to build up their experience

- explain the permit process

- think about the skills they already have, that can be built upon

- put them in contact with their local ACC Activities, Assessors or similar

- signpost them toward possible funding such as DGB (Development Grants Board)

Think about inviting the following roles:

- ACC (Activities)

- Activity Advisors and Assessors

- Manager of Activity Permit Scheme (MAPS)

- Local Skills Instructors and Permit Holders

Advertise this locally and get other young people along from different groups and sections.

Why not invite parents along and you may even get some extra help in the process!

NB: please ensure that all activities follow POR activity guidance

*#YouShape*

# #YouShape Pledges

#YouShape is all about young people and adult working in partnership together, and what better way to do that than declaring it for everyone to see. It's then easy to see when points have been completed and to show that you really are shaped by young people in partnership with adults.

The pledge is broken down into five areas that join up create the basis of Youth Shaped section. These areas are: LISTEN, ACT, PARTNER, EMPOWER and RECOGNISE

By committing to the #Youshape pledge, your section can print it off for all members to sign then display it proudly. If your section continues to build on the partnerships to become even more youth shaped, you can work with your Youth Commissioner to be award certificates.

## Wear their Necker

Wear Their Necker is a fun, exciting and empowering project to celebrate Youth Shaped Scouting. The aim of the project is for groups across the UK to give their young people the opportunity to take over adult volunteer roles. It puts young people into decision making positions and encourages adults to hear their views.

It could range from a Beaver being the Section Leader for a night, to an Explorer attending a District Exec meeting or Network member shadowing the County Commissioner. Whatever you do, both parties will be working in that vital partnership to ensure local scouting is Youth Shaped. It will also help you to identify Future Leaders in the making.

# Your West Yorkshire Scouts Youth Team:

Here to support you!



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