

## Beaver Scouts 35<sup>th</sup> Birthday Challenge – Leaders' Guide

To celebrate an incredible 35 years since the Beaver Scout section officially became part of the movement, we have put together a set of 35 activities/challenges for every Beaver Scout in Scotland to attempt independently and with their parents/carers/guardians over this year's school Summer holidays.

We know that the majority of Beaver Scout Colonies don't operate over the school Summer holidays – my own Colony included. However, we'd like our young people to continue engaging with Scouting during this time. The 35<sup>th</sup> Birthday Challenge has been designed to keep your young people engaged with Scouting over the school Summer holidays.

Please share the activities with all of your young people in the most appropriate way for you/your Colony. You may wish to print and distribute paper copies of the booklet, email the booklet directly to parents/guardians, share the booklet in a social media group, or all three! You can also share the activities with your local community to show them what Beaver Scouts is all about and give young people something to do over the Summer holidays.

Many of the activities and challenges link with our regular Beaver badges. On the following pages, we have listed the badge requirements satisfied by each of the 35 activities/challenges. The challenge also appears on OSM as 'Scotland Beavers 35<sup>th</sup> Birthday Challenge', with myself as the author.

If you are yet to award the official Beavers 35<sup>th</sup> Birthday badge (from Scouts UK) to your young people, you may wish to treat completing a selection of these Birthday activities as the requirement for awarding that badge.

We would like as many of your young people as possible to get involved with this challenge. Please do everything you can to encourage your young people to take part, share it with their friends and family, and have as much fun as possible! You may even want to try some of the activities yourself to kick-start participation!

Yours in Scouting,

Owen Forrest  
Scotland Commissioner (Beavers)

P.S. Happy Birthday!!!



## Badge Requirements

### Looking Back/Looking Ahead

1. Recreate the UK Beaver Scout uniform from 1986 and compare it with your own  
**Membership Award;** Learn about joining your Colony (learning about the family of Scouts, worldwide Scouting and the history of Scouting)
2. Find out how old each of the different sections are and a little bit about them  
**Membership Award;** Learn about joining your Colony (learning about the family of Scouts, worldwide Scouting and the history of Scouting)
3. Imagine Beaver Scouts and yourself in 35 years' time  
**Creative Activity;** Use your imagination  
**My Skills Challenge;** Do two creative activities
4. Create a new badge that might be part of Beaver Scouts in 35 years' time  
**Creative Activity;** Use your imagination  
**My Skills Challenge;** Do two creative activities
5. Live your Beaver Scout promise  
**Membership Award;** Learn about joining your Colony (showing that you understand the Beaver Scout Promise)  
**The Great Indoors Stage 1;** Social Action

### Beaver Scout Skills

6. Prepare your Beaver Scout uniform  
**My Skills Challenge;** Learn and use at least three of these skills (fold or roll your scarf)  
**The Great Indoors Stage 1;** Practical Skills
7. Create a sundial and use it to tell the time  
**My Skills Challenge;** Learn and use at least three of these skills (something similar)  
**The Great Indoors Stage 1;** Outdoor Skills
8. Make an outdoor trail for somebody else to follow  
**My Adventure Challenge;** Take part in six other outside activities (following a trail)  
**My Outdoors Challenge;** Take part in an activity using natural things like leaves, bark, twigs, sand or rocks  
**The Great Indoors Stage 1;** Outdoor Skills
9. Learn to tie your shoelaces and two other knots

**Camp Craft Activity;** Learn how to tie a reef knot

**My Outdoors Challenge;** Learn how to tie three simple knots

**My Skills Challenge;** Learn and use at least three of these skills (tie your shoelaces)

**The Great Indoors Stage 1;** Practical Skills

10. Learn at least one way to find North without a compass

**Navigator Stage 1;** Learn the four cardinal points of a compass

**My Skills Challenge;** Learn and use at least three of these skills (something similar)

**The Great Indoors Stage 1;** Outdoor Skills

## Local Adventures

11. Follow a nature trail and complete a scavenger hunt

**Hikes Away Stage 1;** Complete 1 hike or journey

**My Adventure Challenge;** Take part in six other outside activities (following a trail)

**My Adventure Challenge;** Go on a ramble or nature walk with a purpose

**My Outdoors Challenge;** Take part in an activity using natural things like leaves, bark, twigs, sand or rocks

**My World Challenge;** Do at least one activity to help you learn about the natural world around you

**Scottish Beaver Thistle Award;** Go on a nature walk and then participate in a Log Chew to talk about what you saw

12. Go on a picnic

**Cook Activity;** Choose three dishes to prepare and cook

13. Visit your local library and take out a book that you would like to read

**Book Reader Activity;** Read at least six books

**The Great Indoors Stage 1;** Community Engagement

14. Take part in your own mini indoor or outdoor camp

**Camp Craft Activity;** Help to put up a tent; cook on a fire or barbeque

**Cook Activity;** Choose three dishes to prepare and cook

**My Adventure Challenge;** Take part in six other outside activities (building a den, roasting marshmallows on a fire or BBQ)

**My Outdoors Challenge;** Go on a sleepover or a camp with other Beavers, and do at least two of these (help put up a tent, cook something on a fire, sing songs around a fire, wash up after dinner, set up your bed and sleeping bag)

**The Great Indoors Stage 1;** Nights Away

**Scottish Beaver Thistle Award;** Complete a nights away experience

15. Find and investigate an important landmark in your city, town, or village
- Explore Activity;** Decide where to explore; Think about what you expect to find; Go on the exploration; Tell other Beavers what you have discovered
- My Skills Challenge;** Go somewhere new, then find out five facts about something new
- Scottish Beaver Thistle Award;** Visit a local landmark and learn some interesting facts about it

## The Natural World

16. Look for symmetry and patterns in nature
- Photographer Activity;** Show how to use a camera to take a good photograph; Take 10 or more photos and show these to your lodge or an adult
- My World Challenge;** Do at least one activity to help you learn about the natural world around you
17. Grow something from seeds or from a bulb
- Gardener Activity;** Help to look after a garden or allotment for two months
- My World Challenge;** Do at least one activity to help you learn about the natural world around you
18. Search for insects and mini-beasts
- My Adventure Challenge;** Take part in six other outside activities
- My Outdoors Challenge;** Point out and name five different types of animal, insect, bird or fish that you might find near where you live
- My World Challenge;** Do at least one activity to help you learn about the natural world around you
19. Make something to help wildlife
- My Outdoors Challenge;** Make something to help animals in the wild
20. Get up early or stay up late to take a photograph of the sunrise or sunset
- Photographer Activity;** Show how to use a camera to take a good photograph; Take 10 or more photos and show these to your lodge or an adult

## Get Creative

21. Create a simple kite and fly it outside
- Builder Activity;** Design a model of something you would like to build; Make a list of all the things you are going to need to build your idea; Build your idea using the things you need; Explain how long your build took to finish, if anything went wrong and what you would change if you built it again
- Creative Activity;** Construct something

**My Adventure Challenge;** Take part in six other outside activities (flying a kite you have made)

**My Skills Challenge;** Do two creative activities

**The Great Indoors Stage 1;** Creative

22. Make a miniature garden

**Creative Activity;** Construct something

**My Skills Challenge;** Do two creative activities

**The Great Indoors Stage 1;** Creative

23. Invent and make a machine that might exist in 35 years' time

**Builder Activity;** Design a model of something you would like to build; Make a list of all the things you are going to need to build your idea; Build your idea using the things you need; Explain how long your build took to finish, if anything went wrong and what you would change if you built it again

**Creative Activity;** Construct something; Use your imagination

**My Skills Challenge;** Do two creative activities; Invent a machine and show other Beavers how it works

**The Great Indoors Stage 1;** Creative

24. Make a natural sculpture to represent your favourite thing about Beavers

**Creative Activity;** Construct something

**My Adventure Challenge;** Take part in six other outside activities (building a sculpture using sand, snow, or mud)

**My Outdoors Challenge;** Take part in an activity using natural things like leaves, bark, twigs, sand or rocks

**My Skills Challenge;** Do two creative activities

**The Great Indoors Stage 1;** Creative

25. Make a boat and try to float it

**Builder Activity;** Design a model of something you would like to build; Make a list of all the things you are going to need to build your idea; Build your idea using the things you need; Explain how long your build took to finish, if anything went wrong and what you would change if you built it again

**Creative Activity;** Construct something

**My Skills Challenge;** Do two creative activities

**The Great Indoors Stage 1;** Creative

## **Keep Active**

26. Go for a 35 minute ride on wheels

**Cyclist Activity;** Show how to put on and wear a cycle helmet correctly; Go for a short ride in a safe place

### **The Great Indoors Stage 1; Physical Activity**

27. Construct and complete your own obstacle course

**Health and Fitness Activity;** Take part in three agility activities

**My Adventure Challenge;** Take part in six other outside activities (having a go on an obstacle course)

28. Find 35 ways to travel 35 steps

**Health and Fitness Activity;** Take part in three agility activities

29. Develop your Shinty skills

**Health and Fitness Activity;** Take part in three agility activities

**My Skills Challenge;** Take part in three activities on how to keep your body fit and healthy (exercise)

**The Great Indoors Stage 1; Physical Activity**

30. Complete 35 repetitions of any exercise

**Health and Fitness Activity;** Take part in three agility activities

**My Skills Challenge;** Take part in three activities on how to keep your body fit and healthy (exercise)

**The Great Indoors Stage 1; Physical Activity**

### **Party Time**

31. Send out an invitation to your celebration

**Creative Activity;** Try a craft

**Communicator Activity;** Learn how to send an email or text message

**My Skills Challenge;** Do two creative activities

32. Prepare a party piece

**Creative Activity;** Do a performance

33. Choose games to play at your party

**My Skills Challenge;** Show a new Beaver how to play a game you know and like

34. Plan a menu and prepare a dish

**Cook Activity;** Choose three dishes to prepare and cook

35. Create the most elaborate party hat that you can

**Creative Activity;** Try a craft

**My Skills Challenge;** Do two creative activities

**The Great Indoors Stage 1; Creative**