

## Help as a Cub Scout or Scout Instructor for a period of 4 months.



The other sections in your group always need additional help and would appreciate a helping hand during weekly meetings or camps.

Hold a short informal meeting with the Section Leader to establish your role within the **pack or troop** sections for the next four months. You might suggest that you could be in charge of some of the instructions during the meeting or you can familiarise yourself with one of the badges and help the Cub Scouts or Scouts to earn this badge.

During your time helping out the section, you should improve your skills as a leader; you should also improve the communication skills with other leaders.

Keep a record after each meeting to keep track of your advancements and what your observations were. Discuss your achievements and experience with the unit and your leaders.

#### **VENTURE UNIT** Training Programme

## Notes



#### Carry out 20 hours of Community service spread over not less than 5 sessions



"Being a man or a woman is a matter of birth. Being a man or a woman who makes a difference is a matter of choice." Byron Garret

Community Service is one of the core elements of scouting. It is an important value and everyone scout should feel gratified when doing such a service. The requirement must be performed outside your Scouting Group.

Ideas for Community Service

- Helping out in one of the certified First Aid societies.
- Helping out at an Animal Sanctuary or Animal Clinic
- Assist orphans or elderly people
- Assist at INSPIRE or other institutions
- Helping out at a Nature Reserve
- Tutor children in summer and assist them in learning how to read and write.
- Assist at Museum or a public Library
- Any other ideas (make sure you discuss them with your peers and leaders)

Hold an informal meeting with the person responsible for the organisation you decided to do your community service with. Discuss what your role within the organisation is going to be.

Keep record of all your Voluntary sessions and document what you have learnt and how do you think the community benefited from your service. Present your work to the unit in any form you like (media, talk, powerpoint etc.)

#### **VENTURE** UNIT Training Programme

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#### **Organise a Pioneering Project** (team should be more than 4 Venture Scouts)

Pioneering is the word used to describe the work done by 18th and 19th century military engineers who went ahead of an army to build bridges and towers with rope and timber.

In Scouting, it refers to the knowledge and skill of using simple materials to build structures that are used in a wide range of scouting activities.

Research pioneering structures online or in books or else design one yourself from scratch. Here are some ideas

- Have you ever tried to build a bridge from wooden spars to span a stream at camp?
- Have your Scouts ever made a camp loom?
- What about a flagpole or lookout tower?
- Catapults, climbing gyms, bridges, towers, shelters, gateways, woven lean-tos, fences, rafts: with a bit of ingenuity,

Ventures can build almost anything using only spars and rope. This traditional skill makes it easier to live comfortably in the wilds without high tech foldaway tables, chairs and plastic games. It also builds self-reliance and confidence.

Aim to improve your leadership, planning and team-building skills. After the activity discuss with your leader the obstacles you encountered and how you tackled them. Next time would you do something differently?

### Notes

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## Be an active member in the Executive for at least 6 months.



The Executive is the **Heart** and **Motor** of the Unit. It is essential that you form part of the Executive at any point in time during your venturing time to master different skills and enhance your existent ones.

Act in the role of the Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer for a period of at least six months.

Work in tandem with the other members in order to organise the Unit's meetings.

Refer to **The Unit Executive and The Venture Scout Unit publications** for guidance. These publications can be downloaded from Scout Keeper, Downloads section, Ventures section.

After your experience discuss with your team members and your leaders your experience within the Executive.

Discussions can include:

- Your input in the Executive.
- Proposals during your time and their implementation
- Any difficulties encountered in your post

After this discussion, set up a meeting with your successor to discuss any pending issues and hand over your work. Also, it would be a good idea to share your experiences.

#### VENTURE UNIT Training Programme



## Reach a recognised standard playing a musical instrument



• Start playing a new musical instrument and reach a recognised standard

or

• Improve your musical talent on the instrument you currently practice on and reach the next level in your learning path.

This requirement can also be achieved through a Scouting Band.

Once you are happy with your level, perform in front of an audience. You can either play a known song or your own piece of music.

Why not set up a scouting band and perform during campfires, group mass and group activities?

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#### Organise a talent show for parents and friends



A **talent show** is an event where participants perform talents of singing, dancing, acrobatics, acting, drumming, martial arts, playing a unicorn instrument, or other activities to showcase skills.

A small show concentrating on any talent you wish to show is an excellent opportunity to show your parents and leaders of what you are capable of.

The show can vary from an abseiling demonstration to a small music show or even a Scout-x-Factor, We got TALENT or even an AMICI style show. A musical would be an ideal scenario since it collates all talents into one.

This is something you need to prepare together with a team of people. Therefore it is wise to set up a team to achieve this requirement.

The main challenge would be to do everything "in-house". Why not get professionals to demonstrate how certain equipment (light, music etc) works so you can take over and learn new skills?

#### **VENTURE UNIT** Training Programme



#### Organise a Geocaching hike finding at least 3 Caches



There are over 1.9 million active Geocaches spread all over the world including the Antarctica and even the International Space Station.

In Malta this sport is increasing in its popularity. If you have never tried Geocaching than log in, on www.geocaching.com and see how it works.

When you register you will have access to see locations of all the caches in Malta and Gozo.

Now you can plan a hike or a bike hike with the aim to log on 3 different Geocaches.

It is suggested that you create an account in the name of your Venture Unit, always make sure that the Executive has all Login information at all times.

Keep a Unit Geocache Logbook to keep the records of all the Caches that your Unit has visited.

Why not speak to the Training Department for scouting coins or badges to use in your geocaching adventures.

**VENTURE UNIT** Training Programme

# Notes



## Setup at least 2 Geocache points and keep track of them for a period of at least 6 months.



Setup 2 Geocaches in your favourite spots in the countryside. Upload the information on <u>www.geocaching.com</u> and track how many people found it. During the 6 months the Geocache might need maintenance.

You can try to vary the difficulty of the Geocaches. You can receive very good ratings online if the Cache is very well hidden.

Always keep yourself updated with the Terms and Conditions of Geocaching on the website so that you make sure you abide by the rules.

During the 6 months update (or create) the Unit's Geocaching Logbook with these 2 Geocaches

### Notes

**VENTURE UNIT** Training Programme



#### Plan and organise a community service to an Elderly House

Notes



Becoming an elderly might turn out to be a difficult time for an individual.

As part of our scouting promise, a Scout is to think about others in every moment. As part of our scouting values, a good deed should be performed every day.

To achieve this requirement you have to plan an activity of not less than 3 hours in an elderly home or take care of an elderly person in your town or village.

Find an elderly retirement house in your neighbourhood or in a nearby village, discuss with the management of the establishment to see what kind of service you can do during the visit.

As part of the planning process you have to:

- Set a date and time
- Discuss logistics
- Plan work accordingly
- Review the activity

You should not be more than two Ventures planning and organising the visit. Make sure most of the Unit attends the service visit.

#### VENTURE UNIT Training Programme



## Participate actively in a national/local project for the benefit of your community.



Local Councils around our islands always organise interesting projects. Participate actively in one of them for example you could participate in:

- Clean up the world day
- Local Council initiative for the embellishment of your village
- Work with your Parish or local Bands towards the Local Feast
- L-Istrina
- Any other ideas can be put forward and discussed

Why not dare into bigger projects such as water conservation, public garden embellishments, research about an endangered species in Malta and see how you can contribute in saving this species etc.

**VENTURE UNIT** Training Programme





Carry out games which improve teamwork or social skills within your Unit.

Notes



Research these types of games online or check if your Unit have some interesting books where you could get some ideas from.

Carry out the games for your Unit. After carrying out the Games keep a record in your Unit's files on:

- the details of the games
- the fun element rate
- learning objectives
- the outcome of the game within the unit.

You can also take this requirement a bit further and organise such games of other sections. Before doing so, make sure you discuss your ideas with the respective Section Leaders.

VENTURE UNIT Training Programme



#### Take part in the activities of a local culture group



The idea behind this requirement is so that you improve your Social skills by broadening your horizons such as public speaking, learning more about other cultures and enriching your knowledge.

You can try different aspects if you really want to enrich your experience.

- Why not try and get into traditional aspects such as Ghana or learn a traditional musical instruments?
- Why not try to learn the art of "Bizilla"?
- Ever tried to take part in a musical performance such as Voices?
- Why not try and learn woodwork practice known as "Interzjar"?
- Why not go to a local baker and learn how a Maltese bread is done?
- Why not learn how to do "pastizzi" and "mqaret"?
- Have ever participated in a "Regatta" race?
- Any other cultural ideas can be discussed and agreed within your unit

This requirement can also include: theatre workshop, music society, film society etc.

This is a hands-on requirement. You are requested to either take part or produce.

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#### Organise a Social Activity for your Unit



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#### What does SOCIAL mean?

Social means relating to human society and its members, living together or tending to move together in groups or colonies. In psychological terms, it is used to denote the behaviour of groups and influencing factors for individuals.

With the above caption in mind one can think of many ways on how to socialise. However, as everything in life, the experience can be a positive or a negative one.

As Scouts, we should always strive for positive influences and to encourage members of the Unit to get to know each other better in a positive way.

Drinking, smoking and drugs are obviously negative connotations. Bullying or excluding someone is also damaging.

Although we always tend to organise lots of activities within the Unit and participate in a lot of different sports we sometimes do not bond enough with our Scout mates and tend to leave someone out of our circle of friends.

Organise one or two Social activities where each and every member of the unit learns more about their friends: about their character, likes and dislikes, hobbies and interests, hopes and dreams.

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#### How do my actions as a Scout influence society?



## Notes

"Leave this world a little better than you found it." – BPs last message (1945)

Hence our Association's motto : CREATING A BETTER WORLD

Some people believe that only a big idea would leave the greatest impact on society. But in reality even the smallest of deeds leave a smile on a person's face, and impact their life in a good way.

- How do your actions as a Scout impact society?
- How do your life style impacts the environment around you?.
- What are your plans to leave this world a little better than you found it?

Present your opinions using any media you wish. We also suggest you take part in the World Scout Environmental Programme (WSEP) to better understanding your daily actions.

WSEP requirements can be found on Scout Keeper under the downloads section, ventures section.

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#### Come up with an idea for a Youth In Action Project,



Youth in Action offers a range of opportunities for young people. It is funded by the European Union and administered by the British Council in the UK.

It awards grants to groups of young people, individuals and youth workers who want to take advantage of one of the following options:

Youth exchanges – get groups of young people from across Europe together to share experiences and learn about the world around them.

Youth initiatives – offer young people a chance to develop their skills by running their own projects on topics that really matter to them.

**Youth democracy projects** – develop young people's understanding of the vital role they play in democratic society and get them actively involved.

**Volunteering** – encourage young people to offer their skills to serve a community as they learn about other cultures, develop language skills and improve their employability.

These projects can be a great opportunity for your Unit to come together and work towards a common goal.

Contact the international department (ic@scout.org.mt) or contact EUPA (eupa@gov.mt) to see how YOU could organise a YIA project yourself

**VENTURE UNIT** Training Programme

## Notes



#### Organise a fundraising event for your group



Scouts should know how to cook, not just on open fires but also the basic healthy dishes.

Why not try and cater for a small number of guests, pick a simple and healthy menu and carry it out?

No matter how small a fundraising event is, it always helps. Fundraising could be done even by the smallest of events such as organising a small dinner or if you wish to be more ambitious you could organise a Carwash or even a Run a camp for some kids who are not Scouts. You probably take all this outdoor activities for granted. But what about other kids/teenagers who either do not have the means or have never tried it our? Be tolerant and helpful B-P did this at Brownsea island and see what happened!! The camp can be an introduction to a wonderful journey.

**BUT** – this requirement does not only focus on the activity per se. Organising an event requires different skills and abilities. You have to make sure you prepare and plan for the following:

- Budgets
- Permits
- Marketing
- Logistics
- etc

Why not prepare/update a checklist within your unit for future reference.

VENTURE UNIT Training Programme





#### Ever built a go-kart?

Get your mechanical skills to work .....great fun.

Notes

This might sound difficult but there are a lot of ideas out there that you can try out.

- You can easily build a simple non engine powered go-cart or else go the extra mile and install a small engine.
- You can build a simple camp stove with recycled soup cans
- You can also create an electric bucket to store your extension cords
- Why not build a raft out of plastic bottles or carton boxes?

Search online DIY sites to explore other ideas and test them. Let your imagination run (safely) wild.

VENTURE UNIT Training Programme



## Use your imagination and pioneering skills to construct a medieval warfare machine.



Another definition for Pioneering is: One who opens up new areas of thought, research, or development.

Pioneering can be one of the most enjoyable, and rewarding things a Venture Scout can do. Learning all the different knots and lashings can be a bit daunting at first, but once learnt the number of things you can do with this newfound skill is almost endless.

There are a lot of possible projects that your unit can achieve. Have a look at this site for ideas: <u>http://www.pioneeringmadeeasy.co.uk/</u>

Although this requirement states that you a warfare machine is to be built, you are not restricted only to such ideas. You can take other big pioneering projects ideas.

The most important thing is to explain well how they are going to be used and how they were designed. Make sure that before you let anyone else try your structures, always seek your leaders' approval and guidance.

### Notes

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