

The London Challenge Award


An award from London Region Scouts to grow our programme and to help us celebrate our city's heritage throughout the great place in which we live.





What is the London Challenge Award?

- This award builds upon our programme and is an exciting opportunity to find out about Greater London, to celebrate our 'London Heritage' and the city in which we all live.
- There are 5 zones of the badge to explore:
 - London In The Past,
 - London In The Future,
 - Celebrating London's Diverse Culture,
 - Where We Live and
 - Things To Do & Places To Go In London.
- By taking on The London Challenge Award, many of the themes will align with your own existing Scout programmes and will contribute to achieving your Scout top awards in your section as well as many activity and challenge badges. You can pick from a vast array of different ways to complete each zone.



How to take part in the London Challenge Award

Registration

So that we know you are doing The London Challenge Award, your section leader must register their interest by emailing us at programme@scoutslondon.org.uk.

Tell us approximately how many young people will be taking part so badges and certificates can be organised ready in time for presentation when you have finished the challenge.

The London Programme Team will be happy to answer any questions you may have and to meet the leaders and young people undertaking the award to provide support.

Award Completion

The award is designed to be completed over a maximum 12-month period taking in all 4 seasons and the various activities that are on offer and take part in London throughout the year. The badge can be started at any point during the year – not necessarily January to December.

The activities completed for the award can also be cross-referenced to be used in the current challenge and activity badges.

There are 5 badge zones and to complete the award you will need to complete 2 programme sessions at a section appropriate level from each zone. This will equate to 10 activities in total.

The activities should ideally last approximately 20 mins for Squirrels, 30 mins for Beavers, 60 mins for Cubs, 90 mins for Scouts and 120 mins for Explorers.

Though the zones are the same for each section, we would expect the content and the complexity to reflect the section in which it is being delivered. This approach also allows for multiple sections to work on the award together.

This is very much a ‘YouShaped’ award. So, please engage the young people in your sections and units in the planning process.

Recognition

Make a virtual or 'hard copy' scrap book that all members can add their work to.

Share your ideas, successes and challenges with others who are completing the award via the various appropriate Facebook groups.

Once your scrapbook has been completed, please contact the London Region Programme Team, we will send you The London Challenge Award badges.

A template certificate for the young people will be sent which can be edited and printed locally.

We will send you the details of how to order the badges.

The 63mm distinctive woven badge, has been approved by the Regional Lead for London as an occasional badge and can be worn on uniform for a short period.

The badges are £1 each (which includes postage and packaging).



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London In The Past

Suggestions

- The history of London.
- How London has changed over the years.
- London's stories and legends.
- How did Londoner's make a living in the past and how did they live?
- Explore London in different periods of time – for example Roman London, Medieval London, London during World War II.
- How was London affected by the Windrush generation. Find out what the Windrush generation mean.
- Important Londoners from the past.
- Look at how people in the past travelled and London and how has it developed.

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London In The Future

Suggestions

- Explore London's place in the world and the role it could play in the future.
- Looking after London and its environment.
- Our resources, London's people and our institutions. Try to imagine what will be built, now or in the future.
- Imagine how London might change in the future.
- Design and make models of what future homes in London could look like. London is very crowded – how could we make the most and best use of our land.
- How could we make transport links better in the future.
- How could communication develop across and in London in the future.
- Imagine aliens have landed in London! Help the aliens to understand their new surroundings in London and how to make them welcome in London.

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Celebrating London's Diverse Culture

Suggestions (1)

- Though St George is the patron saint of England there are a lot of references to him throughout London. See if you can find out about some.
- Hold a St George's Day celebration around 23 April.
- London is truly a global city and is often called the Global Village. Find out about some of the many languages spoken in London.
- Find out about all the different food available to Londoners.
- 'I Love London'. Find out about all the things that make London special to Londoners.
- Find out about what people from other countries know and feel about London.

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Celebrating London's Diverse Culture

Suggestions (2)

- Find out about the differences between where we live and young people of the same age in another country.
- Learn the National Anthem.
- Learn some songs about London and perform them.
- Find out about someone who is living now and the difference they are making in London. This could be an artist, musician, writer or politician.
- Find out about some of the many films and television programmes that have been set in London or are about London.
- After finding out about all the different foods available to Londoners, plan a 3-course meal – maybe even try making it!

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Celebrating London's Diverse Culture

Suggestions (3)

- Buddy up with another colony, pack, troop or unit from somewhere else in the UK, host a zoom meeting to see what is different and what is the same about how you scout.
- London was the first city to host the Summer Olympic games 3 times – the last being in 2012. Find out what you can about the games that were held in London and see if you can visit a venue. Maybe a trip to the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park?

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Where We Live

Suggestions (1)

- Make a map of London.
- Make a model of a London landmark.
- Get out and explore places in London you don't know.
- Make a video, poster or display about your locality.
- Make a tourism advert.
- Make a local photo trail.
- Visit local points of interest and report on them.
- Make your meeting place a bilingual environment.
- Put on a play about where you live.
- Find out about famous Londoners – past and present.
- Undertake an environmental or community project in your local area.

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Where We Live

Suggestions (2)

- Look at how our schools and education may differ to those around the UK or another country.
- Find out what is different about Scouting in London (and England/UK) to Scouting in a different country.
- Explore democracy in London and the different forms of government.
- Learn about London's public services and talk to someone who works for your community – for example a policer officer, paramedic or firefighter.
- Photo Alphabet Treasure Hunt. You could head into London or use your local area to find to find 26 different items or places.

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Things To Do And Places To Go In London

Suggestions (1)

- Visit places of interest in London that are not familiar to you.
- Find out about the sports that Londoner's play, their venues and how important they are to London.
- London is a mecca for all types of different entertainment. Find out what is popular, find out about some of the venues.
- Put on a play, display and presentation for others about what we enjoy doing in London.
- Do a review of a place you have visited in London.
- Camp somewhere in London or in the home counties.
- Staying safe on social media and the internet.

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Things to Do And Places To Go In London

Suggestions (2)

- Visit a new place in London and tell your section/unit about where you visited.
- Scouts from all over the world have visited London. Imagine you are hosting Scouts from a different country – plan where you would take them and why.



Methods

- Making – Craft, art, model making, making videos, photos, drawing pictures, cooking.
- Sharing ideas – Workshops, group work and discussions.
- Getting out and about – Visits, trips and exploration.
- Games – Adapt well known games to give a London twist and one of the programme themes.
- Learn new skills.
- Research and report back.
- Take part, try out sports etc.
- Connect with Scout Groups abroad or elsewhere in the UK and compare with the other young people via Zoom, Skype, email, videos, letters etc.
- Watch films, television programmes, read stories and make up stories.
- Invite guest speakers.
- Work with other groups and sections.
- Set individual goals and challenges.
- Record a video or podcast.

Badgework Opportunities

By undertaking The London Challenge Award, there are opportunities for young members to complete Scout top awards as well as parts of their activity and challenge badges.

The following is a list of possible examples.





London In The Past and London In The Future

- Squirrels – Brilliant Builder, Get Creative, Story Time Activity Badges.
- Beavers – Book Reader, Creative Activity Badges. My World Challenge.
- Cubs – Book Reader, Artist, Local Knowledge Activity Badges. Our World Challenge.
- Scouts – Global Issues, Librarian, Local Knowledge, Artist Activity Badges. Creative & World Challenge.
- Explorers – Creative Arts & Global Issues Activity Badges.
- All Sections – Community Impact Staged Activity Badge.

Celebrating London's Diverse Culture

- Squirrels – Let's Celebrate, Super Chef Activity Badges. All Around Us & All Together Challenge Badges
- Beavers – Faith & International Activity Badges. My World Challenge.
- Cubs – Chef, My Faith, World Faiths, International Activity Badges. Our World Challenge Badge.
- Scouts – Chef, My Faith, World Faiths, International Activity Badges. World Challenge Badge.
- Explorers – Chef & International Activity Badges.
- All Sections – Hikes Away Staged Activity Badge.



Where We Live

- Squirrels – Brilliant Builder, Explore Outdoors, Get Creative Activity Badges. All About Adventure & All Around Us Challenge Badges.
- Beavers – Creative, Local Knowledge, International, Photographer Activity Badges. My Skills Challenge Badge.
- Cubs – Artist, Local Knowledge, International, Photographer & Entertainer Activity Badges. Our Skills Challenge Badge.
- Scouts – Artist, Local Knowledge, International, Photographer & Entertainer Activity Badges
- Explorers – Creative Arts, International & Performing Arts Activity Badges.

Things To Do and Places To Go

- Squirrels – Let's Celebrate, Super Chef Activity Badges. All About Adventure & All Around Us Challenge Badges.
- Beavers – Local Knowledge & Entertainer Activity Badges.
- Cubs – Local Knowledge & Entertainer Activity Badges.
- Scouts - Local Knowledge Activity Badge.
- All Sections – Entertainer, Performing Arts, Creative Arts & Sports Enthusiast Activity Badges (not Squirrels). Hikes Away & Nights Away Staged Activity Badges.

Resources

Resources

There are so many different types of resources available to you as you discover more about London that it would be impossible to list them all here! Your local library would be a great source of information as would the internet.

Suggested books are The London Year (What To Do And When) by Yolanda Zappatera & Sarah Guy (published by Frances Lincoln, ISBN 978-0-7112-9335-9) and A Year in London by David Hampshire (published by Survival Books, ISBN 10:1909282685 / 13:9781909282681).

GOOD LUCK AND HAVE FUN!

With thanks to Scouts Cymru on whose original idea this award is based.

