

Virtual #YouShape

Ensuring Beavers is youth shaped throughout virtual Scouting...

Programme

Programmes shaped by young people mean they will be relevant and appealing to Beavers. Young people and adults working in partnership has always been at the heart of Scouting, it also gives young people skills to speak up and be heard.

Virtual Activity Idea - Arty Mural (20 mins)

What do I need?

Art materials

Household objects (be safe!)

Pens

Paper

(or you could use the whiteboard on Zoom)

What do I do?

This is a great activity for programme planning or feedback on sessions.

Set a theme for the mural, this could be:

The best Beaver meeting ever!

Ideal camp

Future Ideas for making Beavers even better

Virtual Activity Idea - Quick Fire Voting (5 mins)

What do I need?

Ideas

Voting system (Zoom hands up or another method)

What do I do?

Use this activity to quickly identify what Beavers want to do.

Drop some questions into your sessions (this works particularly well at the end of a session and also gives an opportunity for reflection) and use the voting system to gauge interest on each topic.

Topics could include:

- What badge do you want to work on next? (pick some virtually achievable badges that you can work together on as a group)
- What adventurous activity do you want to try?
- Should we have a virtual camp?

Ask the Beavers to draw, find things or write about the chosen topic. This is also a great opportunity to ask Beavers about what their thoughts on the chosen topic.

Governance

Ensuring that the voices of Beavers is heard is vital to ensure that what we offer, is what Beavers want.

Holding regular log chews or youth forums is the easiest and most effective way to ensure what Beaver meetings are offering suitable and in-line with today's world. Young people influencing programmes also takes the pressure away from leaders to ensure they are up to date.

If you're having a virtual AGM or Group Executive meeting why not invite Beavers along to pitch an idea or project that they want. This could be a camp, day out or equipment for when we return to face to face Scouting.

Leadership

Peer leadership in Beavers is often the first chance that young people get to lead groups and offer guidance to others. This can still work whilst we are Scouting virtually, sit back and let Beavers take the lead!

Beavers who are taking the lead can help pick and lead games or activities, they can also encourage teamwork when necessary. Beavers taking the lead are also great for helping new Beavers, if you've had a new young person join recently why not ask the Beaver who is taking the lead to check in with them or introduce them to the group. Beavers taking the lead should be kind and helpful, they are essentially role models for the group.

Make them feel valued and set personal challenges for them (this could count towards their personal challenge award).

These are all ideas for virtual Scouting now, but why not use them to plan, ready for when we return to face to face Scouting? It will empower Beavers, giving them the options to choose what they do when they return to meetings.

