



Scouter's Edition

Scouts' Own

The Crean Award:

Discovery:

Promise & Law
Environment

Terra Nova:

Promise & Law
Task/Role in Patrol

Endurance:

Reflection
Skills

Polar:

Scouts' Own

SPICES

Spiritual
Character

The Activity:

Objective:

Organise a simple spiritual activity during which everyone can take a few minutes to reflect on an important theme or idea..

Activity Type:

Patrol Activity
Part of Day Activity or a Camp

Roles:

Activity Leader
Quartermaster
Readers





Plan...a Scouts' Own

Things a Scouts' Own should be:

- a gathering of scouts
- simple and concise
- reflective and inspiring
- quiet and loud
- still and active
- meaningful and appropriate

A Scouts' Own is a short spiritual and reflective activity that allows us to explore a particular theme, especially during a camp or longer activity.

It should involve a selection of components such as prayers, stories, songs, simple activities, fables, thoughts and silence.

A Scouts' Own can be used as a reflective time, but also to explore a relevant theme.

Possible format of a Scouts' Own:

Opening Thought – introduce the main idea

A reading/reflection – something to get everyone thinking about the theme

A simple exercise – an easy and active way to engage with the theme

Prayers – a time to think about things beyond ourselves, to the spiritual

Songs – a suitable song

Closing – thought to end the activity





Do...Sample Scouts' Own

Theme: Community

Opening Thought:

The very fact you know about someone who is in trouble means that in some way you are able to help. Otherwise, why would this knowledge have entered your world?

Baal Shem Tov

Reading:

There was once a man who was busy building a home for himself. He wanted it to be the nicest, cosiest home in the world. Someone came to him to ask for help because the world was on fire, but it was his home that he was interested in, not the world. When he finally finished his home, he found he did not have a planet left to put it on.

Anthony De Mello

Exercise:

Community Ties

Have everyone draw up a list of five people in their community who helps other people. Discuss what they do and does it make a difference. Then, get everyone to think about ways they help in their community. Is there something more they can do?

Story:

A master was travelling with a disciple whose task was to look after the camel. In the evening when they arrived at the hotel, the disciple was so tired that he didn't tie the animal up. "Dear God", he prayed, when he went to bed, "I entrust the camel to you."

The next morning, the camel had disappeared and the master wanted to know where it was. "I don't know", replied the disciple, "you must ask Allah! Last night I was very tired and I entrusted our mount to him. It's not my fault if the camel has run away or has been stolen. I explicitly requested God to watch him. He is responsible. Haven't you very often urged me to trust in Allah?"

"Have confidence in Allah, but first of all tie up your camel", replied the master. "Allah does not have any other hands but yours."

Translated from *Parabole de l'Islam - Parabole d'Orient et d'Occident*





Do...Sample Scouts' Own

Prayers

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love,
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is discord, unity;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is misunderstanding, truth;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy.
O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
To be consoled as to console,
To be understood as to understand,
To be loved as to love,
Since he who gives will receive;
For it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
It is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.
St Francis of Assisi

Song:

It's me, it's me, it's me who builds community,
it's me, it's me, it's me who builds community.

It's you, it's you, it's you who builds community,
it's you, it's you, it's you who builds community.

It's us, it's us, it's us who builds community,
it's us, it's us, it's us who builds community

It's God, it's God, it's God who builds community,
it's God, it's God, it's God who builds community.

Closing:

Everyone repeats the Scout Promise

On my honour I promise that I will
do my best,
to do my duty to God, (or, to further my understanding
and acceptance of a Spiritual Reality,)
to serve my community,
to help other people and
to live by the Scout Law.





Review "SPICES"

Social

- Relationships
- Communication Skills
- Other Cultures
- Community Involvement
- Promise & Law

Physical

- Eat Well
- Personal Hygiene
- Balanced Lifestyle
- How Body works
- Physical Limitations
- Health Choices
- Access Help

Intellectual

- Achieving Goals
- New Ideas/Creativity
- Learn from Decisions
- Team Member

Character

- Promise & Law
- Friends & Friendships
- Plan before do
- Ensuring Fairness
- Respect
- Differences & Views
- Following Dreams
- Live the Scouting Spirit

Emotional

- Aware of feelings
- Asking/Giving Help
- Responsibility for Emotions
- Controlling Emotions
- Going Further
- Beliefs & Values
- Developing Talents

Spiritual

- Promise & Law
- Impact on Environment
- Reflection
- Changing Beliefs





Review

Adventure Skills

How did you progress in your Adventure Skills

Patrol Review

What can we do next?





Scouters' Notes

In terms of the SPICES, elements of Spiritual have been marked as a Scout's Own allows an opportunity for young people to reflect on a particular theme and consider the bigger questions, especially in an appropriate venue. This activity is particularly suited considerations of God, creation and personal beliefs. While these are very personal areas, it may be a good idea to get the Scouts to reflect on what was discussed in the Scouts' Own.

Parts of Character have also been marked as this activity is strongly centred on exploring the Scout Promise and Law. Depending on the theme chosen, different parts of Character will be relevant: eg. valuing friendship, fairness or the Scouting Spirit.

In reviewing, ensure those who organised the activity reflect on it different to those who participated. Ideally, in organising a Scouts' Own, the scouts should have chosen a theme that was important to them, considered it and picked suitable stories, songs and prayers. This is a very active process and will have served them well on progressing on these elements of their personal journey. This level of engagement would be expect for those doing their Endurance and Polar Awards.

The marked areas are where it is believed this challenge covers elements in. However, depending on the way in which the Scouts carry out the task other areas can also be covered. Their review sheet is blank to be filled in by them depending on what they feel they have covered and in their planning section for them to decide what needs to be done to complete areas of their Personal Journey or develop new Special Interests.

