

CHALLENGE AREAS



2019 will be a big year for Scouts Victoria as we introduce the next chapter of our revised youth program. Throughout 2019 we will continue to build The Adventure Begins into our Scouting program as this is the first step in any Scout Group's transition to the revised program. Incorporating The Adventure Begins toolkit into your program will contribute to the basic building blocks being in place as we move forward.

In Victoria, the next stage of our implementation focusses on the diverse range of activities and experiences within our program – this is where the Challenge Areas come in.

During 2019 we will learn how to program using Challenge Areas but before that we need to understand more about Challenge Areas.

SO, WHAT IS A CHALLENGE AREA?

Quite simply, a Challenge Area is a categorized group of activities found within Scouting's diverse program of activities. These are the everyday activities that sections undertake within their weekly program and weekend activities.

The Challenge Areas are four broad activity areas which all the program should fit under and activities that don't fall within any of the program areas may not be appropriate to Scouting, or only on an occasional basis.

An activity can be categorized in one or two or indeed all four of the Challenge areas. There is no right or wrong answer when it comes to deciding within which Challenge Area an activity may fit. You might decide that an activity involving compass work should be categorized as an Outdoor Challenge yet in a different setting compass work might be categorized as a Creative Challenge. Both decisions are correct.

The Challenge Areas are also used to support programming and ensure a balanced program.

WHAT ARE THE FOUR CHALLENGE AREAS?

The four Challenge Areas are: -



COMMUNITY
CHALLENGE



OUTDOOR
CHALLENGE



CREATIVE
CHALLENGE



PERSONAL GROWTH
CHALLENGE



CHALLENGE AREAS



WHAT ACTIVITIES WOULD FIT IN THE CHALLENGE AREAS?

Our Challenge Areas are:

OUTDOOR CHALLENGE	CREATIVE CHALLENGE	PERSONAL GROWTH CHALLENGE	COMMUNITY CHALLENGE
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Some ideas are:

Environment Camping Time in nature Water activities Adventurous activities Journeys	Expression Arts Making Creating Inventing Designing Planning	Health & wellbeing Resilience Mental health Beliefs & values Social justice Skills Interests	Getting out into community Engagement Involvement Project & partnerships Visits Volunteering Diversity & inclusion Environment Active citizenship
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They could be:

Fast High Wide Slow Deep Safe	Unusual New Colourful Bold Innovative Investigative	Individual Healthy Growing Resilience Believing Commitment Understanding New skills	Local National International Supporting Knowledge Service
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And we need to make sure they are:

FUN	CHALLENGING	ADVENTUROUS	INCLUSIVE
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This list is not conclusive and later you will see how all your activities fit within the Challenge Areas.

WHEN DO WE INCLUDE CHALLENGE AREAS IN OUR PROGRAM?

First off, continue to program using the great ideas from your Section Councils, include imaginative and engaging themes, continue to provide opportunity for youth members to lead and apply the Plan>Do>Review principles.

Next, have a close look at your past programs. Can you identify any of the four Challenge Areas in programs from the past two terms? If you can, then you are already programming using the Challenge Areas and are well on your way.

Finally, now that you have a growing understanding of the Challenge Areas and how they are integral to your program, continue to program using all your great practices and principles but with an awareness to include a variety of Challenge Areas in the program. In other words, it's business as usual.