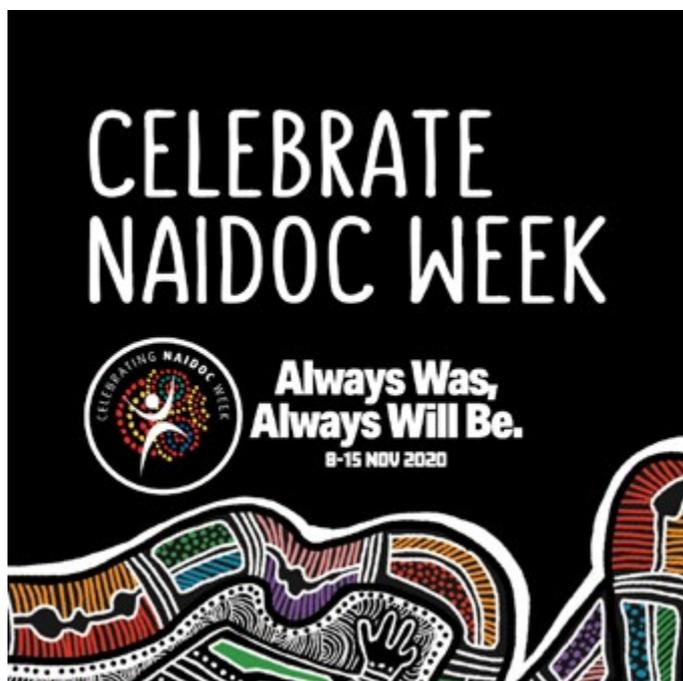


WEEKLY PROGRAM



We're on our way! The weather is improving, restrictions are slowly being eased and we're able to venture outdoors. This is the opportunity for all Scouts to band together and start Scouting as a Patrol, as a Unit and as a Group. As a State.

As a starting point, make sure your Unit clearly communicates with all Scouts and their families when and how your Unit will be re-starting and consider having members of the Unit Council personally call those Scouts who weren't engaged with virtual Scouting. Include details of any fun events planned over the coming weeks and make sure you detail the Covid-19 arrangements your Group has enacted and the expectations of our Scouts.

Visit Scouts Victoria's Covid-19 Update on a regular basis at [Covid-19 Update](#) – in particular the [FAQs](#) – to understand the changing conditions, and the questions many Leaders have been asking. Thanks for registering your away-from-hall activities on [scOUT & ABOUT](#). It's all about keeping our Scouts safe whilst enjoying their Scouting.

NAIDOC WEEK

NOVEMBER 8-15 2020

NAIDOC Week provides an opportunity to recognise all the wonderful things about Indigenous Culture and the connections Scouting has with Land, Stories and Dreaming.

The aim of the program is to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and cultures and to take steps to show respect for our First Nations people. The program is not intended to be like school, but is intended to raise awareness and make connections between our Scouting program, award scheme and activities that celebrate land, belonging and culture of traditional owners in our area of Victoria.

Please note that traditional ownership of some areas of Victoria is disputed. If Scout Groups are within a disputed area, they may choose to modify the program to consider another area, or may modify the program to discuss what disputed means and why that may occur.

Thanks to the Scouts Victoria Reconciliation Group for this week's program.

Acknowledgement of Country

Start your meeting with an Acknowledgement of Country specific to your area, language group and known elders.

This Acknowledgement of Country is from the Scouts Australia Handbook

As Scouts of Australia, we acknowledge Australia's First Nations Peoples, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, as the Traditional Custodians of this land. We pay our respects to Elders past, present, and emerging.

We're grateful to do our Scouting in this country; we commit to use its resources wisely, and develop our understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

We also acknowledge any Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Scouts who are part of our movement today.

Activity 1: Can you guess?

Our Scouts will have a grounded understanding of the length of time and the ability to extend beyond.



Here are some questions to pose:

- How long has your extended family lived in Australia?
- How long have Indigenous people lived on Australia?
- Can you draw on a piece of paper a scaled representation of your family timeline and indigenous timeline?

Answer: Continuous Culture has been proven (in Kakadu) for 65,000 years. There are numerous reviews in progress that may prove it to be much longer than that.

Activity 2: Did you know?

Many of us live in areas rich in Indigenous history and culture and there may be interesting stories of either history or recent times specific to your area, your community or your language group that can be shared.

Leaders may need to do some homework on this. Seek out Indigenous Elders in your area or local historical societies. The Scouts may know something they can share as a result of school projects.

Here are a few questions to pose to the Scouts: -

Do you know any stories of traditional owners in your area?

Do you know what your area may have looked like before European settlement? Who would like to make a few suggestions? No right or wrong answers.

Do you know what indigenous people may have done in your area to live, eat, sleep, or drink? Any thoughts?

Patrol Activity 1: - How do you think the Indigenous people may have protected themselves against the cold at night?

As a Patrol, discuss the type of shelters Indigenous people may have built and decide the best shelter design. What do you think the Indigenous people considered when they were building a similar shelter?

Patrol Activity 2: - As a Patrol, build the shelter that the Patrol decided was the best design. The shelter will need to fit the whole Patrol and keep them dry for the night. Did you consider the materials available to build the shelter, the wind direction, rain, etc?

Use materials around you and possibly any Group spars.

Did you know there is still evidence and visible signs of Indigenous farming in South Western Victoria, north-east of Portland?

This farming system was built about 6,600 years ago. Can anyone guess what was being farmed?

Answer: Eels!

How did they do it? Indigenous people built waterways to enable eels to breed and move about and also made traps so they could catch and cook or smoke them.

The site is called Budj Bim and was listed as a World Heritage Site in 2019.

Patrol Activity Part 1: How do you think the eels were caught, if you had to make an eel trap what would it look like?

As a Patrol discuss and agree on the design of your eel trap. What materials around you could be used for your trap?

Patrol Activity Part 2: As a Patrol now construct your eel trap. How might the Indigenous people worked as a Patrol when building their eel traps?

Activity 3: Dreamtime

Has anyone heard the term dreamtime and what dreamtime is for Indigenous people?

One such dreamtime story is Wayamba's Story. Find a peaceful, serene place for the Scouts to listen to Wayamba's story ...

Wayamba's Story:

Wayamba the turtle

Once upon a Dreamtime, Oola the lizard was out with her three children. All of a sudden Wayamba jumped out from behind the bushes and seized Oola and her children and took them back to his camp so that Oola could be his wife.

Once back at Wayamba's camp, his tribe was angry with him. They knew Oola's tribe would come looking for her and her children and told him he must suffer the consequences by himself. He would have to go out on to the plain and do his own fighting.

Soon after, Oola's tribe were seen coming across the plain which faced the camp of the Wayambas. They were painted for war and were armed with fighting weapons. Wayamba quickly chose the two biggest shields that he had and covered the front of his body with one and slung the other on his back. He seized his weapons and walked out onto the plain to meet his enemies. Oola's tribe showered Wayamba with their spears and boomerangs. As they came whizzing through the air, Wayamba drew his arms inside the shields and ducked his head down between them. The weapons fell harmless to the ground, glancing off his shield. The tribe then started to close in on Wayamba forcing him to retreat towards the creek. At the last minute Wayamba quickly tore off his front shield, threw down his weapons and plunged into the creek. The tribe waited, spears poised in hand ready for his head to appear above water but they waited in vain.

They never saw Wayamba again! But in the waterhole where he had dived they saw a strange creature that bore on its back a fixed plate like a shield, and when they went to try and catch it, it drew in its head and limbs. This was the beginning of Wayamba, the turtle in the creeks.

Do the Scouts know any other dreamtime stories?



Activity 4: Art

(and its connection to dreamtime stories)

Over history Indigenous people used art to tell stories to communicate, as maps showing where water might be found and used weaving to make bags, bowls and other things that were useful. Indigenous artists are famous for their dot paintings and bright colours.

Activity # 1: Weave Wayamba's shield

Equipment: icy pole sticks and wool / string.

Activity # 2: Create a painting or drawing that tells the story of Wayamba

Equipment: Paper or cardboard, pencils, textas, paint, paint brushes, water to clean brushes.

And remember, have the Scouts clean up!

Our message this week continues that theme of heading outdoors at every opportunity be it for your week night program or an adventurous weekend activity.

Many of us are fortunate to have expansive outdoor spaces not too far away and being in the right natural environment at the right time will help our stress levels and improve our mindfulness.

The Scout program is ever so suited to outdoor activities be they adventurous or inquiring, passive or extremely active and the Scouts will feel right at home in an outdoor setting.

We're in no rush for indoor Scouting unless the weather dictates otherwise.

Over the past weeks we've also mentioned how the measure of a successful program is when Scouts participate in a program of their own suggestion.

As well as some games and activities ensure time is set aside for Patrols to sit and discuss activities they would like in their program for the remainder of the term. If your Unit isn't large, by all means sit as a whole Unit and have this same discussion.

Some of the key tips include: -

- All Scouts should have the opportunity to offer activity suggestions.
- A program cycle should have a balance of Challenge Area activities
 - Use the [Challenge Area Brainstorming Chart](#) for guidance and
 - For Joey Scouts, Cub Scouts and even Scouts, have them write their activity ideas on a Post-It note and attach it to the [Challenge Areas - Our Ideas chart](#)
 - This way the Patrol or Unit can move their activity ideas from one Challenge Area to another for a balance of ideas
 - With adults guiding the process, enquire why an activity has been placed within a particular Challenge Area or guide

Finally, always finish your night on a positive note and thank the Scouts for their participation.

