

Community Program Ideas for Venturers

Are you out of ideas on what your Unit can do for a Community Challenge Area night? Well, this is your document!

The Victorian Venturer Council has put together guides of some of the activities that your Unit can add to their program. These are a series of documents divided into each of the 4 different challenge areas. Each Challenge Area has also been broken into a number of sub-categories to help you find suitable ideas.

These guides are just foundational ideas for your Unit to build on and change to fit your needs. Remember to make your program Adventurous, Fun, Challenging and Inclusive - Happy Venturing!

Sub-categories:

- Academic & Career Development
- Challenge & Strategy Games
- Community Service & Engagement
- Cultural Exploration
- Educational & Workshops
- Environmental Awareness & Education
- Film, Media & Photography
- Historical & Heritage Tours
- Food & Cooking
- Games & Competitions
- Recreational & Fun Activities
- Mindfulness & Spiritual Practices
- Scout Skills
- Social & Community Nights

Academic & Career Development.

Activity	Explanation.
Australian Citizenship practice test	Testing knowledge of Australian citizenship followed by writing custom questions.
Court Visit	Visiting a court to observe proceedings.
Newspaper Visit	Visit a newspaper office to learn about journalism and media production.
Nuclear Debate	Engage in a structured debate on nuclear-related topics, exploring different perspectives and arguments.
Parliament House Visit	Tour the seat of government to learn about politics and governance.
Visiting the Melbourne Magistrate's Night Court	Gain insight into the legal system by attending a session at the Melbourne Magistrate's Night Court, learning about court proceedings and legal processes.

Challenge & Strategy Games.

Activity	Explanation.
Get Lost Challenge	Navigate to a specific location without phones after being dropped off in a random spot.
Mattress Smuggle	Work in small groups to transport a mattress to a designated location while evading leaders in cars.
Raft Race	Assist Scouts in building rafts and participate in running a raft race event, promoting teamwork and craftsmanship.
Scavenger Hunt - Sounds	Record sounds: siren, price check at supermarket, parent reciting poem, squeaky gate, 5 items being scanned at a supermarket, order taken at a fast food joint, dog barking, baby crying, car horn, radio sound but not from house, car or smart phone, wonky wobbly shopping trolley, unusual sound, doorbell, balloons bursting, venturers singing a lullaby etc!

Community Service & Engagement.

Activity	Explanation.
CFA Visit	Visiting the Country Fire Authority.
Charity Collection	Collecting donations for charity.
D24 Visit	Visit the police D24
Joey Scouts night	Engage in activities tailored for Joey Scouts, aimed at younger participants.
Meals on Wheels	Volunteer to deliver meals to those in need, fostering community service and empathy.
Police Station Visits	Learn about law enforcement and community safety with visits to local police stations or search and rescue units. Consider the special branches (e.g. Airwing, Local station, Search and rescue, ... if nearby)
RAAF Visit	Arrange a visit to a Royal Australian Air Force base to learn about aviation and military operations.
RSL Information Night	Learn about RSL and its activities by visiting a local RSL club.
S.E.S. Visit	Visit the State Emergency Service to learn about emergency response and community service.
Service in a Soup Kitchen	Volunteer at a local soup kitchen to help prepare and serve meals to those in need.
Service Night	Dedicate an evening to performing acts of service in the community, such as cleaning up a park or assisting at a local charity.
Working at an Old Person Home	Volunteer at a nursing home or elderly care facility to assist with various tasks like serving dinner and providing companionship to residents.
World Scout Dollar Day	Participate in World Scout Dollar Day on February 22nd to raise funds for overseas charities and support global Scouting initiatives.
Visit a service	Visit a service group like Police, Ambulance, Airport, Fire Brigade, Nursing home, ...
Hall cleanup night	Cleaning and organizing the scout hall.
Neighborhood Paperclip Trading	Trade a paperclip with neighbors and share findings with leaders.

Cultural Exploration.

Activity	Explanation.
Scout Shows	Go and see a local Gangshow/Showtime! Check if they have specific Venturer nights, as those are extra fun!
Aboriginal Culture	Aboriginal Culture - Everyone researches and brings a story/fact
Aboriginal Culture - Invite a speaker	Exploration of Aboriginal culture through tours or talks.
Country Themed Night	A night themed around one country and culture.
Buddhism	Learning about Buddhism from a practicing Buddhist.
Chinese New Year	Celebrating Chinese New Year.
Hinduism Exploration	Learn about Hindu beliefs and practices.
Tourist Night	Learning about tourist attractions in the area.
Vineyard Tour	Visiting a vineyard and learning about winemaking.

Educational & Workshops.

Activity	Explanation.
Visit a Fitness Centre	Arrange a trip to a local fitness center for a workout session or to learn about different exercise routines and equipment.
Education about young homeless people	Learning about youth homelessness and related issues.
Youth Homelessness Education	Learning about youth homelessness and related issues.
MCG Tour	Explore the iconic Melbourne Cricket Ground with a guided tour.
Melbourne Airport Customs Visit	Tour the customs area of Melbourne Airport for an educational experience.

Environmental Awareness & Education.

Activity	Explanation.
Dumpster Diving Night	Explore food waste by diving into dumpsters and discussing findings.
Sewerage Farm Visit	Explore waste management and environmental sustainability by visiting a sewerage treatment facility.
Tree planting	Participating in tree planting activities.
Worm Farming	Learning about and setting up worm farms.
Planting trees	Participating in tree planting activities.
Zoo Visit	Visiting a zoo to observe animals.
Dog training	Bring your dogs and learn tricks

Film, Media & Photography.

Activity	Explanation.
Scavenger Hunt - Photos	Take photos of ... Use a list or restrict by something like the letter of the alphabet or a colour
Selfie challenge in city:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • with a policeman • with a statue • Fed square • On city circle tram • With tourists • Human pyramid • With water • With a Street vendor • With a busker • In a lift • With an animal • Doorway to church • Helping a little old lady across the road • Under the clocks at Flinders street • In a small space • With a luxury car ETC

Historical & Heritage Tours.

Activity	Explanation.
Scout Heritage Centre	Visit the Vic Scout Heritage Centre
Historical Society Visit	Tour a historical site or museum hosted by a historical society.
Lunatic Asylum Tour	Explore the history of a former lunatic asylum on a guided tour.

Food & Cooking.

Activity	Explanation.
Formal Fast Food Dining	Experience a formal dining atmosphere at a fast-food restaurant. Bring along a nice tablecloth, candles, flowers in a vase, anything to make the table look fancy
Thai cookery night	Learning and cooking Thai dishes.
Supermarket Challenge 2	Participants buy food items starting with each letter of the alphabet within a budget, promoting creativity and budgeting skills.
Dumpling night	Make dumplings or go out and eat them

Games & Competitions.

Activity	Explanation.
Treasure Hunt Around the Hall	Organize an indoor treasure hunt with clues and puzzles, promoting teamwork and problem-solving skills.
Bigger and Better challenge	Going door-to-door to trade up items for something bigger or better. E.g. start with a clothes peg
Pancakes on the Move	Create a mobile pancake station with a BBQ setup to make pancakes while exploring different locations.
Gnome Night	Participate in a scavenger hunt to photograph garden gnomes in various locations.
Hide and Seek in IKEA	Play hide and seek in an IKEA store.
Supermarket Scavenger Hunt	Search for specific items or complete tasks within a supermarket, adding a fun twist to grocery shopping.

Tent Stunt	Set up tents in urban areas like a city center and capture memorable photos of the group inside the tents, adding a unique twist to outdoor activities.
Tents in Weird Places	Explore the city with hiking tents and set them up in unusual locations for fun and memorable photo opportunities.
The "A-Z Shopping Challenge"	Give groups a budget and task them with buying items starting with each letter of the alphabet, encouraging creativity and budgeting skills.
Tram Stop Scavenger Hunt	Design a scavenger hunt where participants must disembark at tram stops and find answers or items before the next tram arrives, adding excitement to public transportation.
Wide Game at a Shopping Centre	Organize a wide game (large-scale outdoor game) at a shopping center, incorporating elements of strategy, teamwork, and exploration.

Recreational & Fun Activities.

Activity	Explanation.
Ten Pin Bowling	Enjoy a night of bowling at a local alley, providing opportunities for friendly competition and socializing.
Lawn Bowls	Enjoy a game of lawn bowls, a relaxing and social activity.
Theme park visit	Going to a theme park.

Mindfulness & Spiritual Practices.

Activity	Explanation.
Promise & Law	Reflect on the Scout Promise and Law, discussing their meanings and applications in daily life.
Synagogue visit	Visit a Synagogue
Visiting a Local Community Church	Explore the culture and traditions of a community by visiting a local church and engaging in discussions with members.

Scout Skills.

Activity	Explanation.
First Aid Courses	See training calendar
St. John's First Aid Visit	Visit St. John's Ambulance for first aid training and education, emphasizing the importance of emergency response skills.
Rover Visit	Host members of the Rover Scouts to share experiences and insights from their scouting journey.
Visit Another Section.	Go visit another section in your scouting group.
Unit Council.	Conduct a unit council

Social & Community Nights.

Activity	Explanation.
Disability Awareness	Participating in activities that simulate disabilities.
Fundraising Discussion	Hold a discussion about fundraising strategies for the unit.
Pen Friends	Connect with peers from around the world through letter writing and pen pals.
Bowling	Going bowling.
Etiquette Night	Learning about proper etiquette and manners.
Formal Maccas	Visit McDonald's dressed in formal attire or full scout uniform.
Ikea Scavenger Hunt	Venture into an Ikea store, find different Swedish-named items, and take pictures. Conclude with a meal at the restaurant.
Country weekend	Spending a weekend at a country scout hall.
Maccas in Pyjamas	Visit McDonald's dressed in pajamas for a fun and relaxed dining experience.
Soap Trading Night	Trade up a bar of soap for an object then trade up the object traded last.
Trade-Up Night	Initiate a trading challenge where participants start with a small item and trade up to more valuable items by bartering with others.
Halloween Celebration	Celebrate Halloween with themed activities and costumes. May invite other units/groups/sections

