

Joey Scouts Supporting the Peak Award



The Joey Scout Peak Award, the Joey Scout Challenge Award, may be the final achievement for a youth member in the Joey Scout section. If chosen, it will be a good marker of their personal development as a Joey Scout. It is the role of members of the Joey Scout Unit to support Joey Scouts through the final steps of the Achievement Pathways towards their Peak Award.

There are five components of the Joey Scout Challenge Award. These are:

- Completion of Program Essentials – Milestone 3
- Achievement of Stage 1 in each of Bushcraft, Bushwalking, and Camping Outdoor Adventure Skills
- Six Special Interest Area projects
- An Adventurous Journey
- A Personal Reflection

The Unit should be involved in the member's journey and achievements along the way. This is a guide to the Unit's role in each aspect of the Peak Award Achievement Pathway.

Program Essentials Milestones

Program Essentials Milestones are achieved through active participation in a balanced Unit program.

- The adult leaders will support all members to achieve their Milestones, including Milestone 3
- Members of the Unit or Unit Council will be involved in the Milestone 3 Reflection with the Joey Scout and an adult Leader.
- A member of the Unit Council should present the Joey Scout with their Milestone badges.

Outdoor Adventure Skills

- The adult leaders will support all members through their achievement of the core Outdoor Adventure Skills. These are Bushcraft, Bushwalking, and Camping.
- Most members of the Unit will be involved in some aspects of the Outdoor Adventure Skills with their peers.
- The Unit Council awards the Outdoor Adventure Skills badges, following confirmation that a member has achieved a stage. This includes checking the log book.

Special Interest Areas

- These may be completed as individuals, in Patrols, or in a Project Patrol, as long as the project results in personal development.
- Goals for Special Interest Areas projects should be set with the support of an adult.
- Goals for each Special Interest Area projects should be talked about with members of the Unit before the project is started. The Unit members can provide their thoughts on if the goal is too easy, difficult, etc.
- When a Joey Scout thinks their project is finished, their project should be shared with the Unit, including some adults, to confirm they have achieved their goals, or can discuss why their goals might have changed.
- The Unit Council presents the Special Interest Area badges.

Adventurous Journey

The Adventurous Journey occurs when a Scout is working on Milestone 3. In the Joey Scout section, youth members must participate in a 3 hour adventure, including rest breaks.

- The Unit Council should be involved in the planning and reviewing of the Adventurous Journey.
- An adult Leader may plan the journey, but this should be in conjunction with the Unit Council.
- The Unit Council and an adult leader should know who is completing their Adventurous Journey and when.
- The Unit Council, or members of the Unit, should be involved in the review of the Adventurous Journey with the Joey Scout.

Personal Reflection

The Personal Reflection is an opportunity to recall the adventures that a Joey Scout has experienced as part of their Peak Award journey, to share some of the highlights (and challenges) as they conclude their journey, and to reflect on their development in the six SPICES areas.

The Reflection is not an interview! It also is not the time to decide whether a Joey Scout deserves their Peak Award. The Reflection is an opportunity for reflection. It does not require any written documentation – some members may choose to compile some written notes, others might have drawings, photos or videos to share, but some may have very little to show others about their journey and experiences, and can describe their personal development in other ways.

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Preparation/Planning

- Who will be involved in the Personal Reflection?
 - » Which adults will be there?
 - » Which youth members will be involved?
- Have all other requirements for the Peak Award been met?
 - » Have these been approved by the Unit Council previously?
- Has a list of questions for the Personal Reflection been prepared?
 - » Who is preparing these questions?
 - » Have all members seen these questions?
 - » Who will be asking the different questions?
- When and where will the Personal Reflection occur?
 - » Is this suitable for everyone?
 - » Is this in a space where you won't be disturbed?
 - » Is this a space where everyone can feel safe, comfortable and supported?
- Is the Personal Reflection documented?
 - » Has this been agreed with all members involved?
 - » Is this a conversation?
 - » Is it a video?
 - » Is it through photographs?
 - » Are there any written parts?
- Do all members who are part of the Personal Reflection know about the Joey Scout's journey to their Peak Award?
 - » What Outdoor Adventure Skills have they done?
 - » What Special Interest Areas have they done?
- How long will the Personal Reflection go for?
 - » Do you need to have snacks, drinks, etc. available for everyone involved in the Personal Reflection?
- Does the Joey Scout feel like they are prepared to reflect on their Peak Award journey?
 - » Is there anything that might need to be done to ensure they feel prepared and supported?
- What other resources might be required for the Personal Reflection?
 - » Do you have/need the SPICES cards?
 - » Do you have the SPICES I-Statements?

Doing

Here are some suggested questions or discussion points. Don't plan to ask all of them. Select points that will bring out the best in the Joey Scout. You might have some better ones. Make your questions open-ended.

- Tell us about your time as a Joey Scout.
- What did you learn as part of your milestones achievements?
- What did you find challenging to do?
- How have you helped to create a better world through achieving your Peak Award?
 - » What does creating a better world mean to you?
- How do the Promise and Law help you live your life?
- How were you a leader in Joey Scouts?
- How do you think you have improved as a Joey Scout?
- Can you identify something you couldn't do when you started Joey Scouts that you can do now?
- What have you done in Bushcraft, Bushwalking, and Camping?
- What specialist Outdoor Adventure Skills have you developed?
- What Special Interest Area projects have you completed?
- What goals that you set at the start of your adventures in Joey Scouts have you achieved?
 - » Have you gone beyond these?
 - » Did you change these on your journey?
- How did you develop in the SPICES?
- How did you lead and assist other Scouts?
 - » Were these Joey Scouts?
 - » Did you lead any Cub Scouts?

Reviewing

After we conduct a Personal Reflection, we need to review it so that we can make improvements for the next one we do. Here are some questions to consider:

- What do we need to do differently next time?
- What worked well?
- Was there anything that didn't work as well?
- Did everyone have the chance to participate?
- Was the location a place we could use again next time?
- Was everyone comfortable?
- Did we ask the right questions?
- Did we give every opportunity for the Joey Scout to be the best they can be?

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Awarding the Peak Award

Once all of the requirements for the Peak Award have been met, the Unit submits the Peak Award Notification of Completion Form, found at pr.scouts.com.au/achievement-pathways/

- This might require an adult Leader to email the form to the Branch office for processing.

Planning for a presentation should commence. The Unit Council should consider:

- Where will the presentation happen?
- When will the presentation happen?
- Who needs to be invited?
 - » Family? Friends? Mentors? Peers? Past participants in the Joey Scout's various adventures towards their Peak Award?
 - » Are there Group-specific special presentations that also will happen?
 - » Who will be presenting the award?
 - » How do we involve the Scout themselves, in planning the presentation ceremony?
 - » How will the personal development of the Scout be highlighted as part of the presentation ceremony?

Adult Leaders may need to coordinate the event. However, the Unit should be directly involved in the presentation of the Peak Award.

For more information about components of the Peak Award refer to the Scouts Australia Program Handbook and Scouts | Terrain