

## ***Environmental Ideas: Winter & Spring***

### ***The Activity:***

Simple activities to explore environmental themes and protect the natural environment during the winter and spring.

### ***Fiontar:***

Suas:

- Consider how you can help the environment and live more sustainably
- Participate in some concrete actions to help make a positive environmental impact

Trasna:

- Organise concrete actions to help make a positive environmental impact
- Coordinate with other Venture Units

### ***SPICES:***

- Social: Get involved in your community
- Character: Promise and Law in to practice and To be a good citizen, and take responsibility
- Spiritual: To develop and encourage an appreciation of nature and your surroundings



## Greening-up your Meeting Place

Look at ways each patrol can help your meeting place become more environmentally friendly.

- Organise waste recycling bins with good signage of what goes into each
- Start a battery\* recycling campaign
- Fit light sensors & LED energy saving light bulbs
- Make “Switch off” signs for your scout den’s lights and extractor fans
- Research the possibility of installing **Solar Panels** at your scout den
- Organise cycle to meetings and organise carpools or use public transport for activities
- Fit water filters or install a water fountain at your den to reduce the use of single use plastic bottles
- Ban the use of disposable plates, cups & cutlery at the den and on activities
- Start a Green Scout Den initiative to turn your den into an exemplar of best environmental practice using some of these ideas
- Make environmental awareness posters
- Design a green code for your den

## Actions you can take in your area

- Make wildlife management plans for habitats and species endangered around your den
- Help endangered species by enhancing habitats, creating nesting sites and foraging areas
- Plant a wildflowers meadow or window boxes for pollinator bees & butterflies to increase biodiversity
- Plant native trees and create a future forest
- Plant fruit trees or if you only have a confined space plant espalier apples and pears
- Install Bicycle stands and encourage scouts to cycle more.
- Run a bike maintenance workshop and Cycle safety classes for the Beaver Scouts and Cub Scouts



## The World Scout Environment Badge

This initiative was established to support the development of environmental education across global scout bodies. The foundations of this badge are built upon the aims that reflect the goals of environmental education in WOSM. It is part of the Better World framework.

The programme encourages Scouts to have a holistic awareness of the natural world and how their everyday actions can impact upon this, progressively building a sense of personal responsibility for the environment.

1. Register: A crew registers to begin by emailing [betterworld@scouts.ie](mailto:betterworld@scouts.ie)
2. Plan: Using activities, explore and reflect on each of the five areas in the programme - Clean water and clean air, natural habitats, risks of harmful substances minimised, suitable environmental practices, and environmental hazards and natural disasters.
3. Take Action: Complete an environmental project based on your exploration of the issues and which helps the local environment.
4. Review: Evaluate your project and each scout reviews their role.
5. Submit an application for the World Scout Environment Badge which records all your exploration activities and the environmental project.

The Badge is an opportunity for Venture Scout Crews to carry out adventures and projects to help them in their Fiontar Awards. Completing the Badge is intended to last for the duration of an average programme cycle; for Venture Scouts this should be about 9 meetings and 2 weekend activities.



## Review

Discuss the relevance small actions to helping global environmental issues?

What difference did your actions make or will make?

What could you have done differently?

