

Beaver Badge Run

You will need:

- access to a printer
- access to a clear, open space
- a skipping rope
- beanbags
- hoops
- three buckets
- Post-it notes
- a pen

Instructions:

- Ahead of time, print out some images of the badges your Beavers have tried so far. Cut these out and set aside.
- 2. When you arrive at your meeting place, find a clear, open space.
- 3. Using the skipping rope, beanbags and hoops, create a fun obstacle course for your Beavers to run around in. Place the cutout images of the different badges inside the hoops.

- 4. Take your three buckets and three Post-it notes. Draw a smiley face on one Post-it note, a neutral face on the other, and a sad face on the other. Put one Post-it on each of the three buckets.
- 5. During the obstacle course, Beavers should pick up an image of a badge they have completed. When they reach the end of the obstacle course, they should put the badge image in the smiley, neutral or sad bucket, depending on how much they enjoyed completing that badge.
- 6. At the end of the meeting, go through each bucket and see which badges appear to be the most and least popular. Make a note of the results.



Star jars

You will need:

- three empty jam jars
- star stickers
- table tennis balls or marbles

Instructions:

- 1. This activity allows your Beavers to rate activities from one to three, and is super useful for finding out what they enjoy.
- 2. Ahead of time, gather your starry stickers and three jam jars. Place three star stickers on one of the jars, two on another, and one on another.
- 3. Give each young person a table tennis ball or a marble to place in one of the jars as they leave each week. Explain that the jars represent how they felt about the activity, rating it from one (not very fun) to three (really fun).
- 4. Once each young person has got rid of the tennis ball or marble, delegate the counting up to someone in the team.







Cool corners

You will need:

- paper
- pens
- a room/space with clear corners

Instructions:

- 1. This quick and easy activity can be used in a variety of situations. You can use it to:
- collect feedback on an activity you have just done
- get an idea of which activities the majority of young people would like to try
- find out what the group would most like to eat at camp
- 2. Using your paper and pens, label each corner of the room with a different idea or suggestion.

- 3. Explain to your Beavers that they should cast their vote by standing in the corner of the idea they like most. To get to their chosen corner, they can hop, skip or jump.
- 4. By counting the number of young people in each corner, you can make choices in a transparent, Youth Shaped way. The activity is also great for teaching young people how voting works, and for introducing bigger themes such as fairness and democracy.



Edible democracy

You will need:

- plain biscuits (rich tea or digestive biscuits work well; remember to check dietary requirements first!)
- icing
- cake decorations/figurines

Instructions:

- Before you give out materials, have a short discussion with your young people. To jog their memories, ask them what they have enjoyed doing so far in Beavers.
- Then, explain that they are going to be decorating the biscuits with pictures of their favourite activities so far.
 For example, if they enjoyed going on a nature walk, perhaps they could decorate their biscuit with a picture of their muddy boots.

- 3. Once they have understood, make sure everyone has washed their hands. Explain why this is important, and then give each Beaver a biscuit and some icing to decorate.
- 4. Once they have completed their designs, discuss the activities they have chosen to represent. What did they like about them? Would they like to do these kinds of activities again?
- 5. Take photographs of their designs, and let the Beavers take them home to eat. It's edible democracy!











Lego Models

You will need:

- Lego
- imagination
- cutouts from magazines (or printed images)

Instructions:

- 1. Gather your Beavers into small groups, and ask them to each draw an activity they would like to try. If you like, you could gather some cutouts from magazines (or printed images) to help fuel their imaginations, and kickstart the discussion.
- 2. In their small groups, the Beavers should then discuss what they have drawn, and vote for their favourite overall activity.

- Once they have voted, they should work as a team to build a model of the activity out of Lego.
- 4. When their model is complete, they should share their idea with the larger group.
- 5. Take photographs of their designs to aid your future programme planning, and then let them destroy the Lego afterwards!



Next steps

Now that your Beavers have shared their thoughts and opinions with you, remember to incorporate their ideas when you next plan your programme. Once you've done so, spread the news and make sure that your young people are aware of how and where their ideas have been included. This will boost their confidence and make them feel included and listened to.

