

The Merits of At-Home Scouting:

Councils Get Creative as Scouts are Required to Stay Home

Across the nation, councils are finding ways to help keep their youth members engaged and Scouting. These out-of-the-box, in-home activities are centered around providing advancement-related content to help keep kids safe, engaged and to help them make the best of home time. Here are just a few examples of what councils are doing:

30-Day Challenge

Hawkeye Area Council, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

As communities are practicing caution and social distancing, the Hawkeye Area Council developed a 30-Day Challenge for each Cub Scout rank. Use this at home to help keep Scout's skills sharp.

<https://hawkeyebsa.org/30-day-challenge/>

Advancement Academy:

Virtual Resources for Keeping Scouts Advancing, Connected & Having Fun

Cascade Pacific Council, Portland, Oregon

Can't get together as a group? Visit the Advancement Academy for a digital den meeting or merit badge class. Digital den meetings are offered through Zoom and promoted through Facebook. Participants are asked to sign up in advance. There is also great content for Scouts BSA, including sessions on [How to Run Successful Digital Scout Meetings](#) as well as online Merit badge sessions on [Coin Collecting](#), Personal Fitness and more. The site also includes Facebook groups that anyone in the country can join: [Cub Scout and Scouts BSA](#).

<https://www.cpcbsa.org/advancement-academy>

Scouting at Home

Atlanta Area Council, Atlanta, Georgia

If you're looking for a comprehensive list of things that Cub Scouts and Scouts BSA can do to Scout at home, this is it. The page features content directly from Scoutbook and includes ideas of other activities Scouts can do. Plus, suggestions for video platforms – and of course, reminders about the importance of following youth protection standards.

<https://www.atlantabsa.org/scoutingathome>

ScoutShare

Seneca Waterways Council, Brighton, New York

Seneca Waterways Council has set up a site to share ideas on how to do Scouting remotely, plus suggestions on how to work on documents together, and how to hold meetings together if you're not in the same room.

<http://scoutshare.org/Resources/Articles/category/remote-scouting>

At Home Scouting Activities Spirit of Adventure Council

Boston, Massachusetts

This web site features an entire selection of content designed to let Scouts have adventures without leaving home. The site includes links for youth of all ages, from live cams at zoos, to a range of support resources and videos to help Scouts work on merit badges. <https://www.scoutspirit.org/at-home/>

NOVA/STEM

Capitol Area Council, Austin, Texas

The council's STEM Nova Committee is putting together a series of remote Scouting activities tied to the Nova Award and Hornaday-related merit badges. You can find out more at <https://www.facebook.com/events/555955978607128/>

National STEM in Scouting Committee

The committee has developed an online Nova for remote Scouting. You can sign up at <https://forms.gle/wnu6csPv4kmbGstx9>

Looking for other free resources for youth? Here are just a few:

[Boys' Life magazine](#)

Find projects you can create from home and stories that will take young readers' minds on adventures all over the world. In addition to the website, an entire year's worth of issues is free in the BL apps. Download from the [iOS/Apple](#) or [Google Play](#) stores to read it all.

[Khan Academy](#)

Especially good for math and computing for all ages but other subjects at Secondary level. Note this uses the U.S. grade system, but it's mostly common material.

[Futurelearn](#)

Free to access 100s of courses, only pay to upgrade if you need a certificate in your name (accounts require users to be at least 14, but younger learners can use with a parent).

[Openlearn](#)

Free taster courses aimed at those considering Open University, but everyone can access it. Developed primarily for adults, but some courses, e.g., nature and environment, could well be of interest to young people.

[Blockly](#)

Learn computer programming skills – fun and free.

[Scratch](#)

Creative computer programming

[Ted Ed](#)

All sorts of engaging educational videos

[National Geographic Kids](#)

Activities and quizzes for younger kids

[Duolingo](#)

Learn languages for free

[Mystery Science](#)

Free science lessons

[The Kids Should See This](#)

Wide range of cool educational videos

[Crash Course](#)

YouTube videos on many subjects

[Crash Course Kids](#)

As above for a younger audience

[Crest Awards](#)

Science awards you can complete from home

[Tinkercad](#)

All kinds of making

[Prodigy Math](#)

Good for elementary school ages

[Big History Project](#)

Aimed at Secondary age, multi-disciplinary activities

[Geography Games](#)

Geography gaming!

[STEM Simulators](#)

[Learn Computer Science](#)

[The Artful Parent](#)

Good, free art activities linked to from this Facebook page

[Red Ted Art](#)

Easy arts and crafts for little ones

[The Imagination Tree](#)

Creative art and craft activities for the very youngest

[Toy Theater](#)

Educational online games

[Amazing Educational Resources](#)

List of Education companies offering free subscriptions due to COVID

[WeAreTeachers.com](#)

Online education resources