

# YouShape Badge – Squirrels

## The YouShape Badge

This is split into four badges. Young people must earn the central badge first and then choose which order they earn the rest. They can decide on their requirements with a Leader or Young Leader.

## Central Badge

This is all about thinking about what you want to achieve, setting a goal, and making it happen.



1. **Choose one thing you would like to learn more about, do or explore in Squirrels**

## Activity – YouthShaped Art

*You will need:*

- Glue sticks
- Sticky tape
- Neutral craft materials, such as lollypop sticks, pom poms, buttons, ribbon, bubble wrap etc
- Natural objects, such as acorns, pebbles, leaves, sticks etc
- Clean and safe household objects, such as pasta, rice, nuts and bolts, plastic plant pots etc
- Frames (picture frames or make your own card ones)
- Cardboard

*What to do:*

1. Set out the picture frames, objects, and equipment, making sure everyone has access to them. You might use separate containers or set all the bits and bobs up in different creative ways. You may want to cover the surface with a protective material to help contain mess.
2. Gather everyone together, show all the objects and talk through what they are. Tell people that they're going to use their imaginations and put the items on a piece of card, spread them out on a table or floor, or use the frames.
3. There's no wrong or right way for young people to engage with the materials. The main thing is just to let people see what they invent. If someone finishes quickly, encourage them to keep going.
4. People could use glue to make their creations last, such as by gluing the items to card, to frames or to another item.
5. Spend about 30 minutes crafting, then gather back together to talk about and reflect on what people want to get out of their YouShape Award.
6. When everyone has finished, get together in a circle. Ask everyone to bring their creations with them.
7. Ask each young person about what they created, what it means to them and what inspired them. Based on how the creations inspire everyone, talk about what you might like to continue exploring for the YouShape Award.
8. Ask everyone to think about what their theme for the YouShape Award is. It could be based on what they've made. Remember, different individuals, pairs or groups could set different themes, rather than having a whole section theme.

## Plan Badge

You must complete one of the requirements.



1. **Think of an idea for a group activity and tell a Squirrel volunteer about it.**
2. **Share an idea during a group chat.**
3. **Choose something to explore in a Squirrel meeting with your volunteers.**
4. **As a Drey, plan a game to play.**
5. **Suggest somewhere that your Drey could visit in your local area.**

## Activity – Cardboard City

*You will need:*

- Pens or pencils
- A4 paper
- Camera or phone
- Scissors
- Sticky tape
- Stapler
- Coloured pens or pencils
- Maps

*Setting up:*

1. You may want to run this session over several weeks, with one week to plan, one week to build and one week to play in your city. Make sure to take photos of what the city looks like if you need to break it down and store it between weeks.
2. You may want to stick smaller A4 sheets of paper together to create bigger A3, A2 or A1 sheets of paper.
3. Everyone could work on their own map. People could also work in pairs, groups or as a Section to create a map together.

*What to do:*

1. Ask if anyone has seen a map before. A map is a drawing of an area. Maps can be on paper or on a mobile phone, tablet or computer. They can show the countryside, a town, a country or even the whole world. They are used to help plan routes from one place to another, or to find certain features such as castles or hills.
2. Ask everyone what they'd want to include in their own city. What buildings we might find in a city, such as houses, offices, police stations, swimming pools, shops, cafes, cinemas, libraries, hospitals. What else is there in a city, other than buildings, such as parks, woodlands, farms, nature reserves, roads, and lakes?
3. Give everyone a pencil, ruler, piece of paper and colouring pencils or felt tips. Ask everyone to draw a map of their dream city. People could work in small groups or pairs too.
4. If young people are unsure of what to do, a volunteer or young leader could create some examples of maps.
5. Ask everyone to put their maps in the middle of a space or table, then take time to go around and look at each other's maps.
6. When everyone is ready, they should pick up their map and gather back in a circle. Take some time to talk about your maps. What did people include and why? What was most important to everyone? What could people do in their cities, either to work or to have fun? What's their favourite part? What do they like? Is it missing anything?

- Discuss the places they want to create and what people will be needed to operate those places. People could suggest job titles and roles, as well as things they'd do in the city, such as going swimming or walking their dog. Remember to write these things down.
- Ask everyone what they'd like to know more about or learn about in their city to continue exploring for their YouShape award. What intrigues or excites them? What do they really like or want to know more about? Have they included anything in their city that they want to do? Listen and note down what everyone says, remembering to ask more questions to develop ideas. For example, if someone includes a rock-climbing wall, you could ask 'Have you been rock climbing?' or 'How big is the wall?' For their YouShape award, they might then want to go rock climbing, design their own rock-climbing wall, or find out about a famous climber.
- Tell everyone that you'll be building and playing in your pretend city in 'Build a cardboard city'. Gather in the maps, so they can be kept helping build your city.

### Lead Badge

You must complete one of the requirements.



- Help with an activity during a meeting, supported by a Young Leader or adult.
- Lead part of a story.
- Lead a game.
- Use materials to explore your Squirrels YouShape Award themes further.
- Welcome a new Squirrel into your Drey.

### Activity – Clay Models

You will need:

- Camera or phone
- Something to protect surfaces (for example, newspaper or tablecloths)
- Clay
- Tools to carve with (such as blunt wooden or plastic knives, lolly sticks or toy clay tools)
- Any items related to your YouShape themes for inspiration
- Rolling pins

Setting up:

- Divide the clay up between the number of participants and set it out on the surface that you'll be working on. Put out the tools and equipment out too, making sure everyone had access to them. You may want to cover the surface with a protective material to help contain mess.
- You may want to set out items inspired by, used in, or related to your group's YouShape award experience so far for inspiration.

What to do:

- When you're ready, ask everyone to start working with the clay. Remind people to make something inspired by the YouShape award. For example, if you've set a theme to learn about sea life, they might make a creature they saw on an aquarium visit, show their friend playing a game, make a character from a book you've read, or sculpt some litter to show the damage plastic does in the ocean. Remember, people can make whatever they want and there's no right or wrong answers.

- You could provide more safe tools, such as child-friendly kitchen utensils and safe materials, such as natural objects or water, for them to combine the clay with and be inspired by. For example, sticks could become legs, buildings, or roads. Remember, having more tools will allow people to experiment more and be more creative.
- When they've finished, leave the clay sculptures in a safe place to dry. Make sure to wash your hands carefully to get all the clay off and tidy up the surfaces.

### Represent Badge

You must complete one of the requirements.



- Celebrate the Squirrels YouShape Award by making a song, show or work of art based on what you've experienced. Share it with your family, community, or Scout Group.**
- Create a painting, storybook or a poster based on what you've experienced during the Squirrels YouShape Award.**
- You could share any of the above with your local Youth Lead.**
- Tell an adult volunteer about something you've learnt during the Squirrels YouShape Award that you could use to help people in your community.**
- Get in touch with a local decision maker, tell them what you like about Squirrels, and ask them to help Scouts in your area.**

### Activity – YouthShaped Art Gallery

You will need:

- Pens or pencils
- A4 paper
- Card to mount art onto
- Devices to play any videos or audio on
- Headphones
- Tables to display things on, such as sculptures
- Space to hang any artwork on
- A way to hang artwork, such as sticky tack
- Access to a printer
- Any other equipment you need to allow the Squirrels to display and share their creations

What to do:

- Encourage them to plan and run the event and help them to choose what they'll each display. Depending on what you've been working on, they could choose one piece each or choose multiple pieces per person.
- You may want to print and display photos from throughout the discovery stages and different activities.
- Ask everyone to think of titles for their work. Create name and title tags for each piece, so everyone can see who created what.
- Everyone should enjoy the exhibition, take time to look at other people's artwork, check on their guests and get feedback on their artwork.
- This activity was all about bringing together all your YouShape Award work to show off your goals and achievements for the Represent badge. What was your favourite part of this activity? And what was your favourite part of the award?

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