

# advancements to do at home

## first class



**SCOUTS**<sup>®</sup>  
South Africa

## Introduction

Due to the presence of the COVID-19 virus in South Africa, school children throughout the country have been given extended school holidays. Everyone has been asked to limit their social interactions. We urge Scouts to follow these precautions and recommendations while we encourage them to continue learning and progressing through the Scout Advancement program. This booklet contains some advancement that you can do at home.

Please refer to the My Scout Journey book for further explanations and guidance. There are also many other great sources of information for you to read up more about an advancement. Please keep in regular contact with your Scouter and ask your Patrol Leader or Scouter when you need help or have questions.

These are some suggested advancements. Please read My Scout Journey for a full break down of the advancement program. By logging on to Scouts.Digital you should be able to see which specific advancements you still need in order to complete the theme and advancement badges.

### For more information on the COVID-19

- COVID-19 hotline telephone number: 0800 029 999
- The Department of Health has launched a WhatsApp service providing information and updates regarding COVID-19. Simply add this number: 060 012 3456 as a WhatsApp contact and send "Hi" to start.
- COVID-19 resource website, providing information and updates: <https://sacoronavirus.co.za/>
- Current updates on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/HealthZA>
- <https://www.scouts.org.za/members/covid-19-info-for-members/>



# Week 1

Many of the requirements in First Class involve badge work. See which badges you still need to achieve and plan to do some requirements towards those badges.

Most of First Class requires you to plan activities and pass on knowledge that you have learnt, to the younger Scouts in your Patrol. In anything, the planning phase is an important and time consuming part of the task. Once you have done the planning you can complete the rest of your requirement when back at your Troop meetings.

Be sure to communicate with your Patrol Leader and Scouter to help you and guide you through your planning.

## **First Class Safety Awareness Theme - Task 1**

In your community: Research one of the following scenarios and, after discussion with your scouter, prepare an imaginative training exercise designed to provide your patrol members with practical advice on how to survive a scenario with the least risk of harm from the list. Run the exercise and discuss the results with your scouter:

- A hijacking
- A home intrusion
- An armed robbery
- A gang battle
- Any other similar topic approved by your scouter

*We each are exposed to risks in our communities. As Scouts we need to prepare ourselves and teach others how to survive. Once you have chosen a scenario relevant to you and your community, do research about that scenario. It may be helpful to consider more than one variation of that scenario. For example: a hijacking at a robot and a hijacking in a driveway. Put all of your planning in writing and where helpful, add pictures or diagrams. You can then carry out the exercise with your Patrol at a later stage.*

## **First Class Safety Awareness Theme - Task 2**

Bullying: Lead a discussion in your patrol on abuse and bullying at school or on the internet including how to protect younger scouts or friends from abuse.

*All youth today are exposed to bullying. Some are the victims and some are the perpetrators. The more awareness we can create and the more open we are to discussing bullying, the better equipped we are to protect ourselves and others.*

*When discussing this sort of topic, it is often easiest and most helpful to discuss it from your own experiences. It is also important to research some facts. Then put those facts and your own experiences down in writing so that you can have a*

*structured and focused discussion. Perhaps have some key pointers of where you want to guide the discussion. It may also help to put down some points or questions that you think others will bring up, so that you are more prepared in your discussion.*

### **First Class Safety Awareness Theme - Task 3**

Self Defence: Learn some basic self-preservation techniques / strategies and train your patrol in these self-preservation strategies / techniques. OR Earn the Master-at-Arms badge.

*Although others such as our parents, guardian and Scouters are there to protect us, it is important for each Scout to have the skills to protect themselves. Research and learn some of these. They must be things that you can actually do. Practice these techniques and learn how to train others. Some instructional step, diagrams, drawings or videos may be helpful when you train your Patrol at a later stage.*

## Week 2

### **First Class Adventure Theme - Task 11**

Map Work: Plan and run a training exercise for at least three younger scouts on three aspects of mapping skills, as agreed upon by your TS.

*Although you cannot run the mapping activity in person, perhaps there is a way you could train your Patrol using technology. You may also choose to just do the planning for this activity now. Plan what aspects of mapping you want to teach your Patrol.*

*Make sure that you are well informed and understand those mapping skills correctly. Plan how you will teach your Patrol. Will you do a paper based lesson? Will it be practical? Will Scouts work individually, in pairs or as a Patrol? What resources do you need for your training?*

### **First Class Service Theme - Task 14**

Community Service: Plan and run a community project. Spend at least 10 hours over at least one month by yourself or with your patrol in meeting this need. These may include one of the following or another project approved by your Scouter:

- Caring for a sick person (this could include doing the shopping and mowing the grass for example)
- Helping at an old age or children's home
- Helping prepare a food garden
- Helping younger children who are disadvantaged or who have disabilities with reading or homework (or other ongoing activity)

*This requirement cannot be competed now, however the bulk of the planning can be. Find a starting point for your planning. Who? What? When? Where? Why? How? Sometimes during the planning phase, things do not work out and the first idea is no longer viable or possible. You then need to look at other options and ideas that you have. It is good practice to start this type of planning well before you want to run your project or activity.*

### **First Class Service Theme - Task 16**

Environmental Service: Give a presentation to your Troop on a National or International wildlife / environmental agency that has branches in South Africa. Discuss one of their local projects and how Scouts could get involved.

*Before giving a presentation, you need to research at least 1 National or International wildlife / environmental agency. Perhaps by looking at more than 1, you can have a better idea of which agency has accessible information that you can present and which one you would prefer to support.*

*When you plan your presentation, look at things like why you chose that agency, what the agency does and how. You may need to contact the agency to ask them about their local projects and what Scouts could do to support it.*

*This requirement could be completed from home. Perhaps you could record a video or yourself doing the presentation and share it with your Troop by WhatsApp or email. Perhaps you could have a Troop Skype call where you present your presentation. The agency that you have chosen may have a current project which allows for social distancing, which the Scouts could get involved in from home.*

## Week 3

### **First Class Personal Development Theme - Task 19**

\*complete 5 out of the 8 Patrol leadership tasks\*

Patrol Leadership: Set up and man a static public display on scouting in your Troop for one day.

*Think what attracted you to Scouting, and what has kept you interested, motivated and involved. How can you share that message with others in your community so that they can be more informed about Scouting? Put the planning in place to carry this requirement out at a later stage.*

### **First Class Personal Development Theme - Task 20**

\*complete 5 out of the 8 Patrol leadership tasks\*

Patrol Leadership: On your own or with another scout, plan and lead a campfire that is at least 40 min long.

*Plan your campfire, choose song list, ideas for skits and yells, research a yarn, type up the program. Have the planning checked and approved, that when there is an opportunity for a campfire, you can lead it.*

### **First Class Personal Development Theme - Task 19**

\*complete 5 out of the 8 Patrol leadership tasks\*

Patrol Leadership: Plan and lead a friendship activity with a patrol from another troop.

*Plan for a friendship activity. Think about the Who? What? When? Where? Why? And How of your activity. You can type up a letter, complete parts of the permit and put together a program. If technology allows, perhaps look at doing your friendship during these extended holidays. With social isolation, many people feel very lonely. Is there a way that you can plan and lead a friendship activity for your Patrol and a Patrol from another Troop?*