



The Great Berkshire Incident Hike

October 2021

Hi,

As restrictions are eased I hope we are all looking forwards to get back to regular face to face Troop meetings and camps. We really want to encourage everyone to come back together safely, and start getting our Scouts out and about on adventurous activities. We are hoping for every Group in the county to take part in **The Great Berkshire Incident Hike**. Over the month of October Troops will take part in incident hikes all over the county, some led by Districts and some led by Troops. Some Groups will be meeting face to face for the first time in September so October gives them time to get back into the swing of things and Districts time to plan events if they wish.

Below is a guide to running an incident hike. You could run this as a whole District event, maybe just as a Troop or even just one patrol it is up to you. The idea is just to encourage everyone to get out there and have some fun.

What is an incident hike?

An incident hike is when patrols set out on a route with a series of bases with tasks and challenges to complete along the way. The hike doesn't need to be very long or difficult to navigate. There's no rules, just a series of bases and challenges. If it's one of your first events back keep it simple. You don't necessarily need to have bases staffed, they could have notes left telling them what to do or if a leader is with the group they can explain it. You could even give each group envelopes they open at each check point.

Do the scouts need to go on their own?

No, it's been a while since some of them have looked at a map. They may need supervision they may not. This is up to the Troop's leadership team. You could send some groups on their own and others with a leader. There are no rules.

The route

This is up to you but just think about drop off/collection points and distance between the bases. It's been a while since some of them looked at a map so bear that in mind. You can keep it simple and short. Think about how many bases you're having and if you need to have staff at each one.

What can we do for the incidents/bases/challenges?

They can be anything, below we have a few that you can choose from. You could even give each team a quiz to complete on the route.

Are there winners?

You can give each team points for how well they complete each base and have a winning patrol or you could just do it for fun.

Incident Ideas

Signalling – Send a message using either Morse Code or semaphore across a 15 metre gap.

Kit check – Check what the Scouts have packed. Is it what was on the kit list? Is it suitable for today's hike?

Slings – One member of the team has a broken elbow. Place in a sling, explain what you are doing and what else you would do after this.

Paper airplanes – Make a paper airplane that will fly.

Food – Identify six different flavours of crisps.

Knots – Each member of the patrol must tie six knots: reef, clove hitch, bowline, double figure of eight, sheet bend and sheepshank.

Compass and map – Patrol to take a compass bearing and show current location on a map.

Recorded advert – Patrols are to make a thirty second video advert for Scouts.

Spaghetti knots – Tie a reef knot from spaghetti. Tip: Slightly undercook the spaghetti for best results!

Promise – Patrols to recite their promise/motto.

Scout Laws – Patrols to list the Scout laws.

First Aid – Put a member of the patrol in the recovery position. And/or tie a sling. And/or come across a casualty (what do you do?).

Campfire – Sing an action campfire song.

Cooking – Give the patrols a surprise bag and a cooker. Patrols should cook a meal with the ingredients given.

Quiz – Patrols must answer quiz questions.

Stretcher – Patrols are given equipment and told to improvise a stretcher.

Please let me know if you are going to run this as a District event and if not please forward the information on to your Groups so they can take part.

If you take part please can you let us know what you did and send us some photos we could use on the website? If you have any questions please do get in touch.

Kind Regards

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