

# Beavers Disability Awareness Activity Badge



The Beavers Disability Awareness Activity Badge requirements have recently been updated, and these requirements should be used from now on. However, if you're already working towards the badge or have activities already planned, you can continue using the current requirements until August 2025.

## Previous requirements:

Do one activity from each of the lists below.

### 1. Disability awareness – do one of these:

- a. Explain what a disability is.
- b. Find out about a Paralympian and their sport. Tell a story about their achievements.
- c. Visit an activity centre or playground for people with disabilities.
- d. Talk about how your meeting place could be made better, so that everyone can take part.
- e. Make a poster that tells others about a disability. Choose something that's not mentioned later, in numbers 2, 3 or 4.

### 2. Physical disability awareness – do one of these:

- a. Show how to safely push a wheelchair.
- b. Talk about an aid that can help a disabled person. It could be a type of wheelchair, computer, grabber or rising chair.

### 3. Deaf awareness – do one of these:

- a. Learn how to fingerspell your name.
- b. Learn the Promise in British Sign Language.
- c. Explain what hearing dogs for deaf people do. Why are they helpful?

### 4. Sight awareness – do one of these:

- a. Talk about what guide dogs for blind people do.

## Notes:

We removed some of the original requirements for the Disability Awareness Activity Badge at the start of our review, including activities that involved simulating a disability. Often these simulations became a game, inviting a young person to have fun while replicating a disability. As Scouts, we promise to have respect for others, and so we removed these requirements. We recognise that the reality for a disabled person is the barriers society puts in place, which makes their lives more difficult. Disabilities shouldn't be perceived as fun and can't be avoided by simply removing a blindfold or stepping out of a wheelchair.

## New requirements:

We've updated the requirements to create a more educational, understanding and respectful badge. As part of the review, we worked with disabled and non-disabled members, as well as external experts.

The new requirements are in-line with the [social model of disability](#) which Scouts uses. They also provide space for Scouts to learn about non-visible or less visible conditions, which are often known as hidden disabilities. Find out more about [disability inclusion at Scouts](#).

We've also updated the badge design to reflect the new requirements. The new design includes the [Hidden Disabilities Sunflower](#), a widely recognised symbol of non-visible or less visible conditions.

You can find the new requirements and badge design [on the Scouts website](#).