



Skill Section

Ideas for Lockdown



The coronavirus doesn't mean your Top Awards have to stop – far from it.

Here is a selection of ideas you could use to continue with your Award at home.

Don't forget to check with your leader that your activity plan is ok.

You'll still need an assessor; this cannot be a family member. Obviously, they can't pop round to see what you are doing but you can keep a log of what you have done including photos and videos. You can email them to keep them up to date with your progress. You could use a log sheet to keep an accurate record.

Scouting Skills

- Explore **The Great Indoors** with weekly activities from the Scouts

Outdoor Skills

- Learn to garden – set up a vegetable or herb plot at home
- Put up a birdfeeder and learn about the birds coming to your garden – you can sign up to Garden Birdwatch with the British Trust for Ornithology.

Life Skills

- Learn **sign language** with British-sign.co.uk
- Learn first aid with **St John Ambulance** – search for St Johns Ambulance and D of E
- Learn to cook in your own kitchen with a brilliant remote cookery course from a D of E Approved Activity Providers: **Be in the Kitchen, Blackberry Cottage, Egg and Soldiers, Flora's Kitchen, Kiddy Cook, Lorna Wing Cookery, Sassy Stirrers and The Organic Cookery School**
- Make your own bath bombs and soaps with **Soakster**
- Brush up on your driving skills with GA Driving Education's **home-based course**
- Learn some DIY skills – help out with any jobs at home

Hobby and Craft Skills

- Reading; write and share a book review of each one you read
- Writing: keep a diary or a blog of the events and experiences during the lockdown.
- Learn to knit, sew or crochet
- Make birthday / greeting cards
- Learn to decoupage
- Painting, drawing or model making
- Learn to conjure / do magic tricks
- Table top gaming
- Learn to play an instrument – use YouTube or other online videos to help you

Online Learning Skills

- Research your family: set up a family tree online and use resources to find out more about them – call your family to chat about their memories and family stories – ask them to send copies of birth and death certificates to help you in your research – how far can you go back?
- Film making or vlogging
- Learn a new language using Duolingo
- Complete an online course with **U:Bee**, these are specifically designed for D of E Skills section, so will work for Top Awards too.
- Sharpen your photography skills with Sharp Shots Photo Club's **online course**
- Complete a MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) in an area that interests you
- Complete **ICC Educate's** online Awesome Exporting course
- Do a free online money management course for Young Adults with the Open University
- Take part in online music lessons with **Waltham Forest Music Tuition**
- Join the **virtual youth orchestra** if you already play an instrument
- Complete an online typing course with **Spark 4 Kids, Type It** or **Qwerty Kids**
- Learn how to code with **Spark 4 Kids**
- Learn coding and programming skills like python or C+, there are lots of apps and online sites that can guide you through this.

- Learn to build a website
- Create an app to help with online learning for primary students

Mindfulness Skills

- Meditation – try the Headspace app
- Try Growing Minds' online **wellbeing and mindfulness course**

Any questions? Feel free to contact the Staffordshire County Top Awards Team via any of the methods below.

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