

Guide for Participate-Assist-Lead Introduction



Is a Scouts participation in a program an indicator of a successful program?

The answer is a big **YES** because: -

- That program is well-planned with an engaging mix of Challenge Area-related activities
- It offers Scouts the opportunity to develop leadership skills through experience
- Provides Scouts the opportunity to assist and lead irrespective of their level of experience.

In 2020 we are recording all Scouts participating, assisting and leading their program as they are an integral part of Milestones, the core component of Scouting that we expect all Scouts to achieve, their Program Essentials.

But what is Participate-Assist-Lead?

- It's about all Scouts being engaged and involved in their program. A program that
 - > Is Adventurous, Fun, Challenging and Inclusive
 - > Is based on the Scouts own ideas and suggestions
 - > Provides a balance of Challenge Area-related activities.
 - > Delivers on the Purpose of Scouting by developing a youth member's Areas of Personal Growth
 - > Uses The Scout Method to support the development of young people
- A framework for Scouts to develop interpersonal and leadership skills through teamwork, responsibility and belonging as they lead age appropriate activities
- An environment where Scouts can plan their personal Scouting journey whilst being guided and supported by adults.
- It recognises that
 - > Scouts are individuals with a wide range of experiences, levels of confidence and expectations
 - > A Scout's Personal Progression is a learning journey focussed on challenging them to do their best through a range of new and challenging experiences
- A Scout's involvement in the program is evidenced by the number of Participate-Assist-Leads, their leadership development and personal progression
- Participate-Assist-Leads contributes to a Scout's Milestone achievements over a 6 to 12 month period



For Joey Scouts and Cub Scouts, the opportunity to assist and lead may start with smaller games and activities whilst for Scouts, assisting and leading may start with larger more complex games and activities, before moving onto greater adventures and Project Patrols.

For Venturer Scouts and Rover Scouts, assisting and leading might start with Unit activities in addition to the greater adventures and Project patrols.

Read this guide in conjunction with the Guide for Program Essentials and Milestones to appreciate what a Participate-Assist-Lead may look like for each Milestone in your Section.

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What does each of Participate-Assist-Lead look like?

Participate

- Simply put, a Scout participates when they are involved and engaged in their Unit's program.
- Even if a Scout is just being there, on the sidelines watching and observing; they are participating
- All Scouts, including the older Scouts of a Unit need to participate in the Unit's program
- The older Scout who is tasked with leadership responsibilities still has an interest in participating in the Unit's activities
- We continue to acknowledge that a Scout is doing their best
- Scouts that participate in their program will have that recorded towards their Milestone achievements



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Assist

What does it mean to Assist?

- To Assist is to help someone by doing a share of the work in an activity and in our Scouting sense this is typically a Scout will assist or help another Scout to present a game or activity during the program night or on an outside activity.

How does assisting aid a Scouts personal progression?

- Through experience, confidence and leadership skills develop as they progress through the Unit
- Develops confidence to lead an activity appropriate to their experience
- Each Scout's ability and capacity to assist is unique and that the challenge for an assist increases as they journey to the next Milestone
- The Scout is guided and supported by Leaders
- By assisting the Scout has the opportunity to: -
 - > Observe the different leadership skills and styles of other Scouts
 - > Formulate an idea of their own leadership skills and style
 - > Practice communication skills such as listening, verbal communication and listening skills
 - > Develop interpersonal skills by approaching other Scouts to ask if they can assist rather than wait to be asked
 - > Appreciate the interpersonal relationships between a Scout leading an activity and a Scout assisting an activity

What tasks or activities might a Scout undertake when assisting?

- Tasks or activities might include: -
 - > Ask a Scout to assist in the activity
 - > Meet with the Scout leading the activity to discuss the activity
 - > Meeting with a Leader to discuss the activity with the leading Scout
 - > With the leading Scout, discuss how they will assist, define their role and the specific activities they will need to undertake
 - > Seeking confirmation and clarification of their role with the leading Scouts Victoria
 - > Gathering equipment for the activity or game
 - > The activity itself - complete their involvement as previously discussed
 - > Review> - Seek feedback from the leading Scout for future improvement

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Lead

- Leading an activity is the Do> part of the Plan> process
- Leading an activity provides the Scout the opportunity to: -
 - > Lead an activity within a friendly environment
 - > Practice their leadership style
 - > Practice the processes required to lead an activity
 - > Establish the interpersonal relationship between the Scout leading and Scout assisting
 - Practice delegation
 - > Practice communication skills
 - With their Leader
 - The Scout assisting
 - The Scouts of the Unit
 - > Confirm that Plan>Do>Review> is a framework that facilitates improvement
 - Review> their leadership style for future lead activities
 - Review> the planning process for future leads
- Tasks or activities that a Scout might undertake when leading an activity could include: -
 - > Plan>
 - Lead the Planning> process of their activity from start to finish
 - Deciding the type of activity (Activity or Game)
 - Planning the concept or idea
 - How long will the activity last?
 - When is the ideal time to run the activity/
 - What is the best location?
 - What equipment might be required?
 - Will I need any assistance?
 - Permission
 - Risk Assessment
 - Recording Participate-Assist-Lead
 - Contingency plan
 - Discussing the activity with a Leader
 - The Leader might guide the Scout by making suggestions
 - Clarify details such as timing, equipment
 - The Scout might need more than 1 discussion with the Leader
 - Inviting another Scout to assist
 - Discuss their involvement
 - Agree on a set of actions
 - Detail any activities to be completed prior
 - Deciding roles in the activity
 - Planning what equipment may be required
 - Defining the rules of the activity
 - Practicing or rehearsing the activity
 - > Do>
 - Lead the activity
 - > Review>
 - The activity with the Unit, the Scout assisting and the Leader
 - My own Review>