



FACT SHEET

WHAT ARE JOEY SCOUTS?

Joey Scouts are the first Section of Scouting; where young people join the world of Scouting and begin their adventurous journey. The program challenges Joey Scouts to discover all kinds of new adventures.

This age section is all about:

Discovering the world around them,

Developing friendships,

Experiencing greater interactive experiences,

Being physically active and,

Using broad imagination and play.

Creativity and imagination are the key to this age group. Through their adventures, Joey Scouts try new things, explore their own emerging interests and immerse themselves in the activities that they have chosen to do. They decide what they want to do and where they want to do it, with the support of their Leaders.

Joey Scouts go camping, try adventurous activities, explore new locations and learn about the world around them. By engaging with nature and learning in an outdoor location, Joey Scouts open their own imagining of the world.

And the outdoors is the perfect location for any number of running, jumping, exploring, experimenting, touching, feeling, leaping, rolling and anything-else-a-Scout-can-think-of-adventures!

For many Joey Scouts this is also the first time they have experienced the community beyond their own family and school – and there's so much more to explore!

Joey Scouts can work with local community groups, to help others in their local area, and to learn about the diversity of people and places in their community around them.

Joey Scouts aspire to be like their adolescent peers. Their taste of Scouting is like the opportunities afforded to older Scouting sections.

Benefits of being a Joey Scout

In 2018 Scouts Victoria surveyed our youth members, in partnership with the organisation Resilient Youth Australia.

We learned that Joey Scouts ...

- Have more positive mental health than other kids of their age (87 to 74 per cent).
- Feel safer and more secure in their local community (83 to 62 per cent).
- Are more likely to feel they can overcome their difficulties (87 to 66 per cent).
- Have a clearer understanding of boundaries and expectations (87 to 66 per cent).
- Feel significantly more empowered than other kids of their age (74 to 53%).
- Are more resilient than other kids of their age (70 to 56%).

The Joey Scout program addresses the SPICES – the Areas of Personal Growth that add up to the Aim of Scouting: The Social, Physical, Intellectual, Character, Emotional and Spiritual development of young people.

Other benefits to Joey Scouts include:

LEADERSHIP: At school and in sports teams, only a few people get to try a leadership role. In Scouting every youth member has opportunities to develop leadership skills.

CONFIDENCE: Free from the restrictions of school and free to play in nature, Joey Scouts are happy, outgoing, and confident. And great fun to be with: they understand boundaries and expectations better than others of their age.

INDEPENDENCE: Scouting develops independence in young people. This is not a selfish independence, but one that includes a responsibility toward others, to help others, to work as a team. Joey Scouts also develop their sense of independence at Unit sleepovers, Mob camps, and major events like Kangaree.

