

USING THE BEAVER SCOUT MAP

The map of the Pond for the Beaver Scout Section depicts the six Program Areas of the Canadian Path as inspired by the Beavers' symbolic framework of *Friends of the Forest*.

It also includes places that represent other activities that are part of the Beaver Scouts' exploration of the Pond: campfires

and special ceremonies at Hawkeye's Campfire, hikes and nights at camp at Tic Tac's Camp, work on Outdoor Adventure Skills at Echo's Mountain, linking activities with other Sections at Akela's Jungle and, for the White Tails, the tracking of their North Star Award Quest at Aurora's Northern Lights.

Beaver Scouts use this map when planning and reviewing their Adventures. On the map, the Beaver Scouts record their journey by filling in a dot for each Adventure in which they participate. Some Adventures will mean that dots are filled in for more than one Area. The review discussion will help determine which dots each youth fills in. Each Beaver Scout will have a different number of dots filled in, depending upon which Adventures they've participated in and how long they've been in the Colony. When they reach the red dots on the Program Areas, the Beaver Scouts can fill these in with a special colour to show the progress they are making. These red dots give the Beavers something to strive for, a bigger achievement than the dots that celebrate a single Adventure.

How can Beaver Scouts plan Adventures for all of the Program Areas using the map of the Pond?

- Start brainstorming. Look at the map of the Pond together.
 - What areas can you visit?
 - What Adventures could you have?
- What places on the map have we visited? What new places can we explore? Remind the Beavers that they should visit every place on the map several times during the year.
 - Where have you already visited?
 - Where would you like to go next?

- Encourage the Beavers to use their imaginations. Their ideas might include climbing Mount Everest, flying to the moon, digging for dinosaur fossils or parachuting. While these adventures might not seem age-appropriate or possible, there are many activities related to these themes that the Beavers would love to do. Skydiving? Why not? They can play games with an old parachute to get the feeling of skydiving.
- Beavers should also use the map of the Pond when reviewing their Adventures and their Scouting Year as a whole. This will help them to see how some Adventures brought them to places on the map they didn't expect, and it will help them to make their Adventures as well-rounded as possible in the future.

Resources: Friends of the Forest Map (available at Canadianpath.ca)



Canadianpath.ca



It starts with Scouts.