

Ontario Beaver Colony Report

Ontario Colony has consistently had a good turnout of 17 children attending most meetings throughout the past year, which hopefully gives a good indication that the group continues to be both successful and enjoyable.

Activities

This year has been an especially busy year due to the new Beaver Challenge badge program. With this in mind, I would like to say well done to all the Beavers as they have worked incredibly hard over the last 12 months, and have all earned a number of activity badges as well as working hard towards earning their new Challenge badges.

I'm also very pleased to announce that more than 7 beavers have achieved their Chief Scout Bronze awards during the year, well done and congratulations to them all!

Summer Term

In the summer term, the Beavers took part in many activities included attending the St Georges day parade. We also had a great day out with fantastic weather over at Stanton Park where we were joined by our other Beaver section Michigan colony, the Beavers enjoyed taking part in many nature activities including bug hunting, building bug hotels, and then we did a short hike around the woodland, finishing off the day by roasting marshmallows' on a campfire and singing camp fire songs. Also during the term, the Beavers earned their Cycling activity badge where over a couple of evenings we learned all about bicycles and how to fix them including what to do if you have a puncture.

And finally before we finished for the summer break, many of the Beavers attended camp at Youlbury, camping with both of our other Cub sections. The camp proved to be very enjoyable and the Beavers enjoyed trying out new things, such as having a go on the pedal cars and archery and other exciting activities while enjoying the warm dry weather.

Winter Term

For the start of the Winter term, the Beavers took part in our annual Bowmoor fun day, where on the Friday night the Beavers camped out, and on the Saturday, they had the chance to have a go at Kayaking and sailing and despite the cool conditions, everybody had a really great time.

Also during the winter term, the Beavers took part in many great activities included a scrap heap challenge where the lodges had to design and build a machine to pick a ball out of a box, transport it across the room and then place it in a second box without the Beavers touching the ball. All the Beavers proved to be great inventors on the night and their creative and imagination skills were really amazing!

We also had an interesting collectors and Hobbies night, and with the help of the section leaders a photography night was included, so that the Beavers could earn their Photography activity badge.

Finally at the end of the year, the Beavers attended our 2nd annual section Christingle night, and we finished the year with a Christmas party at Free Dog with the cub sections where both the adults and youngsters had a great time.

Spring Term

Spring term has again been a very busy term, all the Beavers have been working very hard and have completed quite a few elements of the new Challenge badges by participating in a number of activities including a foreign food night where the Beavers had fun making their own Pizza's (which tasted delicious) and we also had a great teeth cleaning night, where a number of assistant leaders 'volunteered' to demonstrate how disclosing tablets work, this proved very amusing as they spent most of the evening with neon pink teeth! Also the Beavers made some beautiful Mother's Day gifts.

The Beavers have also been working towards their Disability awareness badge, where many activities have been arranged, including some fun disabled games with blindfolds, a visit by a guide dog and a guide dog puppy 'in training' and their owners. The Beavers also took part in an Easter Egg hunt with a local disabled youth group at Stanton park, all the section leaders were extremely proud of the Beavers as they all 'worked together as a group' and they were very kind and helpful and were fantastic at turn taking when we were looking for the Easter eggs and clues for the word puzzle along the trail.

And lastly on the last meeting, we created a Time capsule as part of our 30 years of Beavers and the Beavers came up with some really great ideas of things to put in our time capsule we then finished the evening with a tower building activity where we had a competition to see which lodge could built the tallest tower using spaghetti and marshmallows!

Leaders and assistants

Throughout the year, the section has been well supported by a great team of adults, and I would personally like to thank the following for making the Beaver section what it is today.

Gerry Kane, Claire Dash, Bonnie Renard, Derek Smith, Richard Evans, Damian Axford, Jackie Stevens, Terry King and our young Leader Nick Wyatt. And again I would like to say a big thank you to them for all their support, help, time and enthusiasm they have given this year.

Parents

Again I would like to say a big thank you from the Beaver leadership team to our regular parents who regularly help out, as without them some of these activities would not go ahead.

THANK YOU

Alan Kelly