

Joey Geocaching Activity

The aim of this activity is for the Joeys to learn to follow a GPSr and to have some fun. You will need to make the activity as easy as possible so that the Joeys are guaranteed to find a container.

Equipment:

- 1 GPSr per group
- 1 Torch per Joey
- Plastic containers (one per waypoint with numbers written on them)
- Glow sticks (to make the containers easier to find)
- Prizes (lollies, toys, etc)??

Before The Activity

You need to find a suitable location to run the activity, whether it is at a Scout park or the local park.

Prior to the night you will need to walk around the park and find some good hiding spots for your containers. Some good spots could be behind a log, in a stump, under bushes, etc.

Once you have found a good hiding spot, you need to mark a waypoint with your GPSr. For the best results, you should mark multiple waypoints for each hide and then average them out.

When you have finish getting and averaging out the waypoints, preload the waypoints onto the all of the GPSr's that you will be using on the night.

Keep a paper list of the waypoints so that on the night of the activity you can mark them off as you sent the Joeys off.

On the night of the activity you will need to go for a walk again and hide the containers. If you are running the activity in the dark, put an activated glow stick in the container so that it is easy for the Joeys to find.

Using the GPSr, put the containers as close as possible to the averaged waypoints.

You are now ready for a fun night.

On the Joey night.

Turn on all of the GPSr prior to the meeting so that they are ready to go.

Explain the rules and show the Joeys what they are looking for.

Send them off in groups, with a leader/parent helper, a couple minutes apart, making sure to cross off the waypoint from your list so as not to send 2 groups to the same waypoint.

Each group is to have a different waypoint and make sure you spread them out so the Joeys are not tripping over each other.

Once the last group has gone, make your way to the park, so that if you have more waypoints than groups, you can then give the Joeys more containers to search for.

If you are lucky, the Joeys will find all of the containers which means that you don't have to go back and pick up any containers that the Joeys missed.

I hope this activity works for you. We ran this with our Joeys and they really enjoyed it.

If you have any question, please contact me at coxy@geoscouts.org.au