

PERSONAL SAFETY BASES FOR SCOUT SECTION JUNE 2001

1. Ask the patrol to form a circle shoulder to shoulder. All turn and close the circle. Without using hands, support the person behind you on your lap. Each person becomes an integral part of the team and co-operation is essential

Ask participants do they feel comfortable or uncomfortable? What is personal space?

2. A leader has to mime various body language activities and the patrol members have to mime what the body language means.

e.g. scowling, happy, I don't like what you are doing, I am angry, I feel unsafe

Discuss how we can tell if others feel uncomfortable about our behaviour

3. Tie a balloon and string to each participant's ankle. On the command, each participant is free to break the other's balloon whilst protecting their own.

Discuss how you feel? Is this threatening / competitive / angry / revenge / payback. You have had something of yours broken intentionally, how do you feel? Do you feel any different if the person taking your property is bigger than you or is a more powerful position than you – patrol leader, group leader, section leader, district commissioner

4. Scouts in patrol tied together with rope, all facing outwards. The patrol has to move 30 metres in the shortest time.

Discuss teamwork, cooperation, working together. Whilst walking forward, did you feel pushed, was someone in the patrol taking over, did this make you feel uncomfortable. Was your personal space invaded?

5. In pairs, use your feet to tie a knot e.g. reef knot, clove hitch.

Discuss the challenge that this gives. How important is it to be able to use your feet? Lone Scout Nick Friedrickson is the one armed axeman. What challenges does he face?

6. Three compass points in a given area are set out. At each compass point have a bag of a smelly something (herbs etc) which the patrol members have to identify.

However each member has a disability

♣ Goggles for vision impairment

- ♣ Cotton wool in ears for deafness
- ♣ Sling on arm
- ♣ Legs tied together
- ♣ Gag in mouth

Discuss how important the senses are.

7. The patrol has a pole, which they have to carry. Each member of the patrol lined up on the pole facing one way with the patrol leader facing the other way. The patrol leader then directs the patrol through an obstacle course. Aim is about teamwork, co-operation, trust

Discuss how you felt about being told what to do

8. The whole patrol stands facing forwards on a straight log. They then have to change places with each other without moving off the log. Teamwork and rapport important

Discuss how you felt about being so close – was your personal space invaded.

9. Patrol members sit in a circle facing each other and discuss any issues within the patrol. Leader needs to keep the rules for respect of others in front of everyone. Leader may need to start discussion e.g. members late for activity because one of the patrol did not take their turn for wash-up; patrol did not get Jamboree award because some members of the patrol not participating appropriately.

What strategies could be used to assist? Do patrol leaders need skilling in conflict resolution?