



Scouting@Home
for the
Holidays

The Power of Advertising

Challenge Area



PERSONAL GROWTH

The end of the year is always littered with advertisements. From Black Friday and Boxing Day sales ads on tv, to emails with discount codes, to social media content convincing us that we need a certain brand of shoe in our lives, we are constantly bombarded with advertisements that work to influence us to want or buy a product.

This activity encourages you to look deeper into the power of advertising by learning the different tools of persuasion used by businesses and organisations.

Instructions

1. Form a Project Patrol.
2. As a group, brainstorm what you already know about advertising and advertisements. How have you been persuaded or influenced to buy a certain product in the past?
3. Watch the following advertisements on YouTube and decide if their purpose is to persuade, inform or warn you.
 - a. [Slip, slop, slap \(1:07\)](#)
 - b. [Menulog \(1:00\)](#)
 - c. [For once, Don't Do It \(1:00\)](#)
 - d. [A Better Way to Christmas at Target \(0:45\)](#)
4. Watch the following two YouTube videos:
 - a. [Buy me that \(0:00 – 3:50\)](#)
 - b. [Sneaky signals of advertising \(0:00 – 3:40\)](#)
5. Find a catalogue, magazine or website and look for examples of advertising. Each person in the Patrol should have a different example so you can discuss them together.
6. Answer the following questions for your ad:
 - a. What is the purpose and audience of the advertisement? How do you know?
 - b. Do you think the product could make you happy or popular?
 - c. Consider why particular actors were chosen for the advertisement. Do you think they really use the product?

- d. What techniques do the ads you watch use? Humour, promises, special offers, exaggerations, quotes, abbreviations or rhetorical questions, music/sound, colour, repetition, emotional triggers, quotes, comparisons, science, fantasy.
7. Each Patrol Member should design their own advertisement to persuade their Patrol to:
 - a. Prepare for an alien invasion
 - b. Buy an unwanted item from you
 - c. Support a topic you are passionate about.
8. Take turns sharing your ad.
9. Rank how persuasive each ad is.

Reflection

This activity encouraged you to explore the different techniques used by organisations and businesses to persuade. You also investigated the influence of advertising on consumer choice. How will you apply these learnings next time you see an advertisement?



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Starry Starry Scavenger Hunt

Challenge Area



On 22 December 2020, planets Jupiter and Saturn align for the first time in almost 400 years to form what sky gazers call a "Christmas star". Though not technically a star at all, the so-called "double planet" phenomenon or 'great conjunction' will see the planets light up like one single bright star, despite in reality being millions of kilometres apart! In the Southern Hemisphere, the great conjunction will occur at 4.20am AEDT on 22 December. While most (if not all) of us will be tucked in bed asleep at that time, there's a handy app we can use to view the Christmas star at any time of the day.

Explore the wonders of the night sky, including our very special Christmas star, with this fun stargazing scavenger hunt!

Instructions

1. Print out the Scavenger Hunt list and quiz [here](#).
2. With the help of a parent or adult, download the SkyView Lite app on a phone. This app lets you use your phone's camera to identify stars, constellations, planets and satellites!
 - a. [Android app](#)
 - b. [iPhone app](#)
3. Again with the help of a parent or adult, open up the SkyView Lite app and go to the Settings menu (three horizontal lines on the top left hand corner of the screen). Then tap on 'Date and Time'. Adjust the date and time to be 22 December 2020 and 4:20am. This will allow you to use the app to see the positioning of specific stars, constellations, planets and satellites at that particular time.
4. Hold the phone and point it up to the sky (with the screen facing you), moving it up, down and around to different angles and heights.
5. Cross off the stars, planets and constellations you can see. Bonus points if you can spot the Christmas star and answer a few quiz questions!
6. Compare your fun facts with a friend.

Reflection

This activity encouraged you to head outside (at a suitable hour of the day) and explore the wonders of the night sky! It also provided the opportunity to view a one in 400-year phenomenon called the Christmas star. What are some other ways you can integrate astronomy into your Scouting activities?

STARRY STARRY SCAVENGER HUNT



- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Venus | <input type="checkbox"/> Gemini constellation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sagittarius constellation | <input type="checkbox"/> Capricornus |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aquarius constellation | <input type="checkbox"/> A star in the Above Horizon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Space Station | <input type="checkbox"/> Libra constellation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Moon | <input type="checkbox"/> Scorpius |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sun | <input type="checkbox"/> Taurus constellation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mercury | <input type="checkbox"/> Hubble Space Telescope |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Southern Cross | <input type="checkbox"/> Venus |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ursa minor | <input type="checkbox"/> NGC3532 Star Cluster |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ursa major | <input type="checkbox"/> The Christmas Star |

Write down three fun facts you learned while using completing this activity.

What is Sagittarius A?

- Another name for the North Star
- The black hole at the centre of the Milky Way
- A subdivision of the star sign

Once in a blue moon is a common phrase. What is a blue moon?

- A moon that is full twice in one calendar month
- The blue-ish effect created by a cloud of dust and gases around the moon.
- There's no such thing.



Festivities Around the World

Challenge Area



December is a popular month for celebrations. It marks the end of another year, the beginning of summer, and, of course, the festive season! Did you know that there are a number of holiday celebrations taking place this month? Although the purpose of each festival or holiday is different, they tend to have some things in common. Many are filled with traditions, like decorating a tree at Christmas or giving gifts during the eight days of Hanukkah. Festivals and holidays also bring people together.

This activity encourages you to learn about different festivals or holidays and how they're celebrated around the world!

Instructions

1. Form a project patrol.
2. Each person should select one of the following holiday celebrations that take place in December:
 - a. Christmas
 - b. Hanukkah
 - c. Kwanzaa
 - d. Yule
 - e. Ōmisoka
 - f. Las Posadas
3. Each person should do some research about their chosen festival or holiday – What are its origins? What are the unique traditions associated with this festival or holiday? How do these differ between different countries?
4. Learn to say the holiday greeting in a different language. For an extra challenge, why not learn how to write a holiday message for each of your patrol members in that language?
5. Brainstorm ways you could combine traditions from these festivals or holidays into your own celebration.

Reflection

Learning about different holiday festivities and traditions can help you discover different cultures and connect with people in our community to celebrate them. It also gives you the opportunity to understand the world on a beautiful and diverse level. What did you learn about holiday celebrations that you didn't know before?



DIY Terracotta Pot Decorations

Challenge Area



Whether you're looking for unique ornaments for your Christmas tree, or after a fun way to spruce up your growing plant collection, you can make your own decorations using a simple clay pot – no green thumb required!

What you will need:

- Mini terracotta pot
- Paint
- Paint brushes
- Ribbon and other craft materials to decorate your pot – e.g. stickers, markers
- Glue

Instructions

1. Plan how you'd like to decorate your pot – if you celebrate Christmas, why not use the pot to make a Christmas-themed ornament you can hang up on your Christmas tree? If you don't celebrate Christmas, think about an awesome design you can paint to show off your pot plants!
2. Paint the base colours on the pot and let it dry.
3. Using your craft materials, decorate the pot. Be creative! Let it dry.
4. **If making an ornament:** After the finished pot has dried completely, grab the ribbon and cut it to 20cm – 30cm in length. This is what you'll use to hang your ornament onto your Christmas tree, so you can choose what length suits. Thread the ribbon through the hole at the base of the pot (from the top to the inside of the pot). Tie a knot in the ribbon, and hang it up on your Christmas tree!
5. **If making a unique pot for your plants:** After the finished pot has dried completely, pour in a base layer of potting mix. Remove your plant from its old pot and transfer your plant into the new pot, gently placing it in the centre of the pot. Pack the potting mix around it so that the plant is firmly in place.

Reflection

Mini terracotta pots are versatile for both crafts and planting! What are some other ways you can use terracotta pots?

Gratitude Jars

Challenge Area



WELLNESS

While for some, much of the focus this time of year is on wish lists and gifts, this simple activity is a great way to identify all the things you already have and are grateful for.

What you need:

- A clear jar or container – plastic or glass
- Art supplies – stickers, magazine cut outs, ribbons etc.
- Gratitude slips – blank strips of paper
- Coloured pens, crayons or markers

Instructions

1. Form a project patrol.
2. Using your art supplies, each person should personalise their own gratitude jar. Use ribbons, stickers or other materials to decorate the jar and make it your own.
3. Using a pen and gratitude slip, write down things you are thankful for and drop it into the jar. Try to think of at least three good things to write on three gratitude slips each day. The goal is to add new statements each time. Here are some examples:
 - a. I am grateful for my dog because she makes me laugh.
 - b. I am thankful for the dinner I had tonight. It was my favourite – pizza!
 - c. I appreciate my dad because he cooks me yummy food.
4. Each person in the project patrol should add gratitude slips into their own jars and encourage family members to do the same!
5. At the end of the week, sit down as a project patrol (this can be done online if you can't meet up face-to-face), and take turns reading out the slips of paper in your jars, sharing some of the things you're grateful for.

Reflection

This activity encourages you to stop and think about the positive things you've experienced in 2020 and the things you are grateful for. While 2020 has been an extraordinary year, shifting your mindset to gratitude is a great way to focusing on things you do have, rather than don't. How do you feel after filling up your gratitude jar? Did your project patrol members share similar findings?