

OBSERVATION AND RECORDING

AIM

To encourage a spirit of adventure and discovery.

The Expedition Section provides opportunities to:

- ◆ Plan and carry out a task
- ◆ Show enterprise and imagination
- ◆ Work as a member of a team
- ◆ Develop self-reliance
- ◆ Develop leadership skills
- ◆ Recognise the needs, strengths and weaknesses of others
- ◆ Make decisions and accept the consequences
- ◆ Reflect on personal experience
- ◆ Enjoy and appreciate the countryside

OBSERVATION

The ability to observe is a skill that improves with practice.

Observation is enhanced by concentration. It is also vital to remember that we observe not only with our eyes, but also through all our senses:

TOUCHING
HEARING
TASTE
SMELL



We learn by:

SIGHT 75%
HEARING 13%
FEELING 6%
SMELL 3%
TASTE 3%



But you remember:

10% of what you hear
50% of what you see
90% of what you do



The purpose of the expedition should be considered in the early planning stages and should relate to the interests and abilities of those taking part.

Participants may wish to focus on:

- ◆ Practical first hand observations, investigation or study
- ◆ Aesthetic appreciation
- ◆ Literacy or historic journeys
- ◆ The completion of a physically demanding journey

THINGS THAT COULD BE OBSERVED

- ◆ TREES
- ◆ HILLS / MOUNTAINS
- ◆ CHURCHES / OLD BUILDINGS
- ◆ ANIMALS
- ◆ PATHS
- ◆ FLOWERS
- ◆ BIRDS



You may be able to think of other objects, but these are just a few.

Obviously it will depend on the location of the venture on what you choose to observe.

USEFULL IDEAS WHEN PREPARING PRESENTATIONS

- ◆ Descriptive writings and drawings bound in a portfolio.
- ◆ Mental maps, sketching a map of the journey and bringing it to life with drawings and feelings along the route.
- ◆ Collecting materials en-route to make a collage.
- ◆ Use the five senses to observe the venture and plan your presentation.
- ◆ As you lie in your sleeping bag, drinking your cocoa at the end of a satisfying day, meditate on the day's events and jot down anything that springs to mind.
- ◆ A well produced presentation provides an account that will be treasured in later life, long after the foul weather and blisters have been forgotten.
- ◆ Reports should include details of the dates and time of venture, together with objectives, goals and could conclude with your own view of the value of the activity.
- ◆ Summarising the experience of the venture and sharing them with others is an important and enjoyable part of the overall experience.