



# Verdugo Hills Council Diversity Awareness Award

The purpose of this award is to broaden our awareness and appreciation of the diverse world around us. Because there are so many diverse groups to learn about, Scouts and Scouters may choose to earn this award multiple times in their careers and discover more about different groups each time. We hope you will be inspired as you learn more about the stories of people who are different than you.

As you work through the award's requirements, keep a journal of the things you learn and the conversations you have. You may use the [Journal Template](#) or create your own journal. [Resources](#) have been compiled with suggestions for some activities. After completing all activity requirements, submit a completed [application](#) and journal to [diversity@vhcbsa.org](mailto:diversity@vhcbsa.org).

## **Award Requirements for Scouts by Rank**

### Lions & Tigers

- Complete Activities 1-4.
- In your journal, draw a picture that shows what you learned for each activity.
- In your journal, write a few words yourself about what you learned for each activity and/or record a few sentences with the help of your adult partner.

### Wolves & Bears

- Complete Activities 1-6.
- In your journal, write a few sentences about what you learned for each activity. You may also draw pictures.

### Webelos & Arrow of Light Scouts

- Complete Activities 1-8.
- In your journal, write at least one paragraph about what you learned for each activity.

### Scouts BSA, Venturers, Sea Scouts, & Explorers

- Complete Activities 1-10.
- In your journal, write a couple of paragraphs about what you learned for each required activity.

## **Award Requirements for Scouters**

- Complete Activities 1-8.
- Write a reflection on how the information you learned completing the required activities impacted you personally.
- Plan an event for your Unit, District, or Council that promotes Equality, Equity, Inclusion, and/or Justice and write up an Event Plan. As part of the event, promote the Diversity Awareness Award to participants.

## Award Activities

1. Discuss with your family, den, patrol, or unit what Equality, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice mean and give some examples. Here are some brief definitions to get you started:
  - a. Equality is treating everyone the same and giving everyone access to the same opportunities.
  - b. Equity is giving everyone the support they need to have the same opportunities.
  - c. Inclusion means that all individuals feel accepted, respected, and valued.
  - d. Justice is upholding what is fair, just, and right. It is the principle that people receive what they deserve.
2. Learn about a cultural event or holiday celebrated by people from a different background than your own. If possible, participate in the celebration or talk with someone who has participated.
3. Talk with an adult from a different background than your own (race, ethnicity, disability, religion, identity, etc) about their experiences growing up. Prepare some questions before you meet. You might ask if they have experienced discrimination, if they have advice on how to be a better friend to people of diverse backgrounds, what changes they hope to see in the future, etc.
4. Research someone who is known for promoting Equality, Equity, Inclusion, or Justice, or who overcame discrimination. See [Resources](#) for examples.
5. With your family, watch at least one movie that depicts the experiences of someone from a group that has experienced discrimination. See [Resources](#) for examples.
6. Learn more about American Scouts of a different background than your own. See [Resources](#) for examples.
7. Learn more about a group that works to promote understanding among people of different backgrounds and/or remove causes of inequality. What is their mission? How do they work to achieve it? See [Resources](#) for examples.
8. With your family, participate in an event or activity that promotes Equality, Equity, Inclusion, and/or Justice.
9. Earn the [American Cultures](#) or [Disabilities Awareness](#) Merit Badge.
10. Share what you have learned with your Patrol, Crew, Post, or Ship, and discuss what you can do to promote Equality, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice.