

# meerkats

## national challenge 2019

'get involved & be prepared to  
create a better world'



SCOUTS  for SDGs

## introduction:

On the 16<sup>th</sup> of November 2018 "[Scouts for SDG's](#)" was launched at the United Nations (UN) headquarters in New York – "an unprecedented mobilisation of our Movement that will see 50 million Scouts make the world's largest coordinated youth contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) for 2030".

## what are the sustainable development goals?

Find out here: <https://sdgs.scout.org/>

## how can we help?

In order to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all, we all have a role to play.

This is where Scouting comes in.

*"Since its beginnings, Scouting has been enabling young people from every corner of the globe to create positive change in their communities, acting on challenges and needs at all levels of society. It uses an action-orientated, self-educational approach to contribute to the empowerment and holistic development of young people as autonomous individuals and active global citizens."*

The 2019 National Challenge for Meerkats is based on the first 4 SDGs. Can your Den achieve the National Challenge this year? What you need to do for SDGs 1, 2, 3 & 4 are explained below

## the challenge for meerkats:

Just like the Cubs, the Meerkats will be challenged annually through their Meerkat National Challenge.

The 2019 National Challenge focuses on the **first four SDG's** –

1. No poverty;
2. Zero hunger;
3. Good health and well-being;
4. Quality education

In subsequent years we will focus on the other SDGs. However, you will still be able to tackle the challenges for the first four SDGs.

In order to qualify for the 2019 Meerkat National Challenge badge, the Den needs to complete **all four SDG's**.

As supporting SDGs is ongoing challenge, any four of the SDG challenges completed by a Meerkat, prior to them going up to Cubs, will count towards the Cub National Challenge badge for that year.



## Goal 1: No Poverty

### Complete the following requirements:

Run the Meerkat programme below to **complete all requirements**:

1. Introduce the Meerkats and parents to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's).
2. Think of ways you can promote the sustainable use of our natural resources within your community.
3. Make a "save water" poster and put it up in your school, shop, place of worship, etc. Why not pre-print the contact details for your Meerkat Den on the poster? (Remember to get the necessary permission before putting it up.)

<b>Activity</b>	
Opening	
Introduce the SDG's and why SCOUTS SA feels that it is important to be part of "doing our bit".	
Get the Meerkats to run around & find puzzle pieces that have been hidden around your meeting area. The puzzle pieces depict the icons of the first four SDG's.	
Put the puzzles together as a Den. Depending on numbers, you may need multiple puzzles, or take it in turns to do them. Puzzles can range from 4 - 20 pieces depending on the Meerkats 'skills.	
An alternative to puzzles, is to play a card game like snap or pairs.	
Briefly discuss why each SDG is important. (Can be done, while still building puzzles)	
Play a relay game where Meerkats have to move water from one container to another using a cup at a time. They must try to conserve water by not spilling. The containers should be placed 2 meters apart.	
Think of ways that you and your family can save resources like water and electricity in your home, and even reuse grey water. Based on this, make posters of how to save water to put up in a place where it can be seen by others, e.g. schools, shops, places of worship.	
Closing	Source Image: Craig Rens





## Goal 2 – Zero Hunger

### Complete the following requirements:

1. Grow beans or tomatoes from seedling or seed and with your Den harvest all the fruit/veggies for your local ECD centre or soup kitchen.
2. Earn the Meerkat gardening badge.
3. Take your Meerkats to you nearest "Rise against Hunger" warehouse (or similar organisation) where they can help to pack food for an ECD feeding scheme. This can be used as one of your outings. The link below is for "Rise against Hunger" to give you an idea.  
<https://www.google.com/search?q=rise+against+hunger+johannesburg&oq=rise+against&ags=chrome.4.46j69i60j0j46j0l2.19772j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8>
4. Choose a suitable public area to raise awareness whilst fundraising for your Den's project. It has been suggested that we could use a farmer's market or craft market, etc. (Make a couple of posters with the slogans 'help feed our children' or 'help our Meerkat to STAND TALL'. Sell them at a nominal cost. For a small donation they could receive a small seedling or seed glove. (As per the SSA Finance, Fundraising and Admin policy, Adults need to handle the money.) Let your imagination be your guide, this is a good chance to raise awareness, you could also give out details of your Meerkat Den.

### How to make seedling egg boxes / seed gloves:



Egg box: Try to plant 6 different seeds in the egg box. Remember to label each one. You can advertise your Den with "Grow a garden with .....Den" and add an email address or phone number.

Seed gloves: Use cheap polythene gloves, and a small piece of wet tissue/cotton wool to make a fun greenhouse. A different seed in each finger will make it interesting and fun.

The seeds can be planted when they have germinated.

(Source images: 1<sup>st</sup> Facebook Beaver Colony.)





## Goal 3 - Good health and well-being

**Complete the following requirements:**

**Don't forget the photos!**

1. Make a poster to go in your school, meeting place, etc. For example: hang a poster in the washroom as a reminder to wash hands & turn off the tap (Ha Ha!).
2. Earn the Meerkat first aid badge
3. Earn the Meerkat healthy eating badge.



## Goal 4 - Quality education

**Complete the following requirements:**

1. One of the Cubs challenges is to start or participate in a community book drive and donate the books collected to a local school/library. Meerkats can help the Cubs with their collections.
2. Never in the history of the world has any child ever coloured every page of a colouring book. Back some of the uncoloured pages with cardboard and donate them to your Early Childhood Development centres with wax or pencil crayons. You can also make some of the coloured pages into simple puzzles to donate.
3. Visit Early Childhood Development centres in your community and teach them some of the skills you have learned at Meerkats (e.g. plaiting, weaving, cutting, colour mixing).

**Hope you have fun with these!**

### references:

<https://sdgs.scout.org/>

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sustainable-development-goals/background.html>

<https://charity.org/sdgs-background>

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sustainable-development-goals.html>

<p>Scout Group: _____</p> <p>Name of Den: _____</p> <p>Date Completed: _____</p>	<p>Number of Meerkats who took part: _____</p> <p>Number of Scouters who took part: _____</p> <p>Email address Den Scouter: _____</p> <p><u>Photos:</u> In order for SSA to report to WOSM we require photos. Please send in 4 photos of one or more completed requirements in order to facilitate reporting. Please ensure parental consent has been obtained to use the images.</p>
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**Goal 1: Poverty**

Run the Meerkat programme below to complete all requirements:

1. Introduce the Meerkats and parents to the Sustainable Development Goals.
2. Think of ways you can promote the sustainable use of our natural resources within your community.
3. Make a "save water" poster and put it up in your school, shop, place of worship, etc. Why not pre-print the contact details for your Meerkat Den on the poster? (Remember to get the necessary permission before putting it up.)

**Did your Meerkats have fun? Tell us some of the ideas that came up on using sustainable resources. Did you have any feedback from the posters that you put up?**

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## Goal 2: Zero Hunger

Complete the following:

1. Grow beans or tomatoes from seedling or seed and with your Den harvest all the fruit/veggies for your local ECD centre or soup kitchen.
2. Earn the Meerkat gardening badge.
3. Take your Meerkats to you nearest "Rise against Hunger" warehouse (or similar organisation) where they can help to pack food for an ECD feeding scheme. This can be used as one of your outings. The link below is for "Rise against Hunger" to give you an idea.  
<https://www.google.com/search?q=rise+against+hunger+johannesburg&og=rise+against&aqs=chrome.4.46j69i60j0j46j0l2.19772j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8>
4. Choose a suitable public area to raise awareness whilst fundraising for your Den's project. It has been suggested that we could use a farmer's market or craft market, etc. (Make a couple of posters with the slogans 'help feed our children' or 'help our Meerkat to STAND TALL'.

**Describe how you did this:**

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**What did you and your Meerkats learn? Was it fun?**

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### **Goal 3: Good health and well-being**

Complete the following:

1. Make a poster to go in your school, meeting place, etc. For example: hang a poster in the washroom as a reminder to wash hands & turn off the tap (Ha Ha!).
2. Earn the Meerkat first aid badge
3. Earn the Meerkat healthy eating badge.

**Describe how you completed the requirements:**

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**Tell us something funny that happened during this Goal.**

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### **Goal 4: Quality education**

Complete the following:

1. One of the Cubs challenges is to start or participate in a community book drive and donate the books collected to a local school/library. Meerkats can help the Cubs with their collections.
2. Never in the history of the world has any child ever coloured every page of a colouring book. Back some of the uncoloured pages with cardboard and donate them to your Early Childhood Development centres with wax or pencil crayons. You can also make some of the coloured pages into simple puzzles to donate.
3. Visit Early Childhood Development centres in your community and teach them some of the skills you have learned at Meerkats (e.g. plaiting, weaving, cutting, colour mixing).



**Tell us what you did:**

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**What did your Meerkats learn? Did they have fun?**

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**General comments about the 2019 challenge, how many outings did you spot?**

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**Reminder:**

**Note:**

- Please take lots of photos, we need at least four with your application. Please remember to ensure you get written parental consent for the images you take/ use of the participating children.
- Then get your pictures into your local newspapers if you can.
  
- Have you added 4 photos to this entry form for reporting purposes?
- **Challenge deadline: 30 November 2019**
- **Please email completed forms AND photos to [mailto: craig.rens@scouts.org.za](mailto:craig.rens@scouts.org.za)**