



# VIRTUAL BRONZE EXPLORATION GROUP PROJECT MANUAL



## STAGE 5 – RESEARCH PROJECT (EXPLORATION)

Version 2.0

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ONLINE RECORD BOOK



## INTRODUCTION

Thank you for accepting the challenge! You are about to attempt something that is entirely new to the world of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award - a virtual adventurous journey!

Due to the restrictions in place in many countries to help stop the spread of COVID-19, we have developed this opportunity. This activity will help to develop the same group working and planning skills that are expected by all adventurous journeys.

### THE VIRTUAL BRONZE EXPLORATION IS COMPLETED IN 5 STAGES:

#### ***Stage 1: Preparation & Training (Part A & Part B)***

The Preparation & Training stage will be useful and act as a base level of knowledge for your Adventurous Journeys at the Silver and Gold levels.

#### ***Stage 2: Group Planning***

The Planning stage will ensure that the whole group works together.

#### ***Stage 3: Practice***

The Practice Journey stage is your chance to test some of the ideas in your plan.

#### ***Stage 4: Virtual Journey (Expedition)***

The day of activity for the virtual Journey in stage 4 is intended to give a flavour of a physical expedition, using videos of virtual walks from some beautiful parts of the world. Please use your imagination and enter into the spirit, helping to bring to life the team challenges that you undertake after each video. You will also challenge yourselves physically by undertaking a four hour activity challenge. The virtual journey will also include a camp cooking challenge and eating a group meal "together" as though you were camping.

#### ***Stage 5: Research Project (Exploration)***

Your exploration starts as soon as your virtual journey activity has finished. You will have a maximum of 10 days from the end of your qualifying virtual Journey to complete a group Research Project that involves the whole group in online research, sharing and learning from personal experiences of others in the group.

This re-imagined virtual exploration will help to develop the group work and team skills that underpin the aim of the Adventurous Journey section of the Award and these are core life skills that many people have had to learn and use for their livelihoods over the period of lock-down. We believe that these will become increasingly important life skills for everyone.

Please read the instructions and support material carefully, use the support and mentorship offered by your Adventurous Journey Supervisor/Assessor, and work together as a team. Please also provide any feedback you can on this experience in writing to [info@dukeofed.org](mailto:info@dukeofed.org). You are some of the first and only people to have undertaken this kind of challenge and while we know it will be different than hiking on the coast or in the mountains, it will build skills and team work for you to do physical journeys in the future.

**\*PLEASE NOTE:** It is important to keep individual records of your work. When completing each of the worksheets and forms, be sure to save your work on your device or use the Classroom Drive and create your own folder of documents. Make sure you upload all your materials to your ORB so your Adventurous Journey Assessor and Award Leader can authorize the AJ section.





## RESEARCH PROJECT (EXPLORATION)

1. The aim is for the group to complete and document a group research project that is relevant to one of the following:
  - a. Covid-19 and its impacts on society, or
  - b. the Environment, or
  - c. the United Nations Sustainable Development goals (please see the videos below).
2. The topic selection is to be one where all group members can share relevant, personal experience. This represents the experiential component of the Adventurous Journey section's outcomes and benefits.
3. The group will further research the topic (through online information gathering, interviews, and sharing your group's experiences) and gain a greater understanding of the topic to add to your collective experience.
4. You must meet at least 3 times for approximately 30 minutes each time to discuss your experiences, the research each person has completed and what more you have learned, and to finalize your observations.
5. You must document your Research Project in a final report IN A FORMAT OF YOUR CHOOSING that demonstrates the process you have completed, the roles played by each group member, the group response to the research question that was set, and any conclusions.
7. A copy of this final report must be uploaded to your ORB and submitted to your Adventurous Journey Supervisor/Assessor within 10 days after the completion of your Virtual Journey (Expedition).

### LESSON RESOURCES



**United Nations - Youth and the Sustainable Development Goals**

[WEBSITE LINK](#)

**United Nations - The Lazy Person's Guide to Saving the World**

[WEBSITE LINK](#)



**GreatSchools - Research skills your teen needs for college**

[VIDEO LINK](#)

### LESSON WORKSHEETS



**VBE Stage 5: Action Research Proposal**

[ASSIGNMENT LINK](#)

