

CARDBOARD BOX SHELTER

AIM

Spend a night in a cardboard box shelter to empathise with those who don't have the comfort and security of a home. Informed by your experience, create awareness around the issue of homelessness in your local area.

WHAT CAN WE DO?

As a group of Explorer Scouts and Scout Network members, think about how to make this experience more meaningful. Consider these points to decide whether you want to just camp out or make more of an impact.

- Do you think you could last a whole night in the cardboard box? Perhaps you could get sponsored for completing the event?
- Find out more about the experience of homelessness from the perspective of those in the know. You could invite a local homeless charity or local branch of a national homeless charity to come in and talk about homelessness in your local area.
- Are there differing opinions about homelessness in your group? You could have a debate about homelessness in your local area.
- Think about how you could support the local community. Use the event to support a food bank either by collecting products or signposting guests to local food banks. Remember to speak to your local food bank first to see what they actually need – they often have a list of what they are currently collecting.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- a large cardboard box or tarp shelter
- sleeping bag
- warm outer clothes
- refillable water bottle
- a deck of cards
- a completed risk assessment (and in case of an emergency: a back-up plan)

Nights Away rules apply and must be followed.

To find out more about Nights Away please visit the website here: members.scouts.org.uk/nightsaway

