

# Design a Roof Garden of the Future

**Scouts design the roof garden of city buildings of the future. They might draw or make a model, and could include green spaces, power generation, transport links and food growing.**

**Section:** All  
**Time:** 30 minutes  
**Where:** Home, Den, On Camp

**11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES**



## PLAN

By 2050, 68% of the world population will live in urban areas. Cities will look very different by then, with much more consideration given to sustainable living. The starting point for this activity is to have the scouts imagine what these cities will look like, and to imagine what life will be like. That will get them started and their imagination and optimism will build on from there.

Let the scouts decide how they want to depict these future roof spaces. They might like to draw or paint their creations, or work with Lego or other modelling materials. Some scouts might construct their future rook designs in Minecraft or other virtual realms, maybe even working together to create a future city.

### Materials

Drawing or modelling supplies, depending on how the scouts would like to do it.

## DO

Scouts could work on their own or in small groups to bring their roof to life.

Encourage them to think about the future that the SDGs envisage for us all; with clean air and water, safety and good jobs, a stable climate and healthy food, equality and justice for all. How would buildings and neighbourhoods contribute to this?

Would some rooftops become the city parks, with trees and grass and even ponds and wildlife? Would some transport systems operate from these rooftops, maybe with clear tubes and landing spots for mini-jets? Might there be electricity generation from sun or wind, or might those things be on the sides of the buildings? What about growing food? Would the air be foggy and polluted or clean? In designing the rooftops of the future, literally, the sky is the limit!

## REVIEW

When everyone has done their designs, bring the scouts together to show their work. Chat through some of the more interesting, sustainable or innovative ideas. Try to find a way to share their vision of the future to the wider scout community, whether through hanging art on the wall of the den, building a giant model or creating a virtual tour to share online.



### In a nutshell...

- Scouts image what cities of the future will look like.
- They design future rooftops and present them on paper, as models or on software such as Minecraft.
- They share their ideas and bring them together to present the city of the future.



### Follow-on

The scouts could think about city rooftops in some other countries or regions. What would be unique about the rooftops of a city in the desert, or one surrounded by rainforest? What about a frozen city, or one where it is dark for half the year?



### SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities

SDG 11 aims to substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, and mitigation and adaption to climate change. Scouts will contribute to these changes as planners, designers and inhabitants, so now is the time for them to start thinking about this.



### Find out more!

Visit - [www.betterworld.ie](http://www.betterworld.ie)

Contact us - [sustainability@scouts.ie](mailto:sustainability@scouts.ie)

Produced by the Scouting Ireland Sustainable Scouting Team