DR. BERNARD HARRIS SUPERNOVA AWARD FOR BOY SCOUTS

Additional checkoff sheets and helps are available from ScouterMom.com.

Here are the merit badges approved for use in earning the Boy Scout Supernova awards: Animal Science, Archaeology, Architecture, Astronomy, Automotive Maintenance, Aviation, Bird Study, Chemistry, Composite Materials, Computers, Dentistry, Digital Technology, Drafting, Electricity, Electronics, Energy, Engineering, Environmental Science, Farm Mechanics, Fish and Wildlife Management, Forestry, Game Design, Gardening, Geocaching, Geology, Insect Study, Inventing, Mammal Study, Medicine, Mining in Society, Nature, Nuclear Science, Oceanography, Plant Science, Programming, Pulp and Paper, Radio, Reptile and Amphibian Study, Robotics, Scuba Diving, Signs, Signals, and Codes, Soil and Water Conservation, Space Exploration, Surveying, Sustainability, Veterinary Medicine, Weather, Welding										
1. Complete any three of the Boy Scout Nova awards. (Note: These may be done at any time after becoming a Boy Scout.)										
2. Earn the Scholarship merit badge.										
3. Earn four of the Supernova approved merit badges from the list above. (Note: These may be earned at any time after becoming a Boy Scout.)										
4. Complete TWO Supernova activity topics, one each in two different STEM areas.										
5. Participate in a local, state, or national science fair or mathematics competition OR in any equally challenging STEM-oriented competition or workshop approved by your mentor. An example of this would be an X-Prize type competition.										
6. Do ONE of the following:										
6A. With your parent’s permission and your mentor’s approval, spend at least one day "shadowing" a local scientist or engineer and report on your experience and what you learned about STEM careers to your mentor.										
6B. Learn about a career that is heavily involved with STEM. Make a presentation to your mentor about what you learned.										
7. Working with your mentor, organize and present a Nova award or other STEM-related program to a Cub Scout den or pack meeting. Be sure to receive approval from the appropriate unit leader and agree on a time and place for the presentation. If a Cub Scout den or pack is not available, your presentation may be given to another youth group, such as your troop or at your place of worship.										
8. Review the scientific method (you may know this as the scientific process) and note how scientists establish hypotheses, theories, and laws. Compare how the establishment of "facts" or “rules” using the scientific method differs from the establishment of “facts” or “rules” in other environments, such as legal, cultural, religious, military, mathematical, or social environments. Then do the following										
8A. Choose a modern scientific subject with at least two competing theories on the subject and learn as much as possible about each theory.										
8B. Analyze the competing theories, decide which one is most convincing to you, and explain why to your mentor.										

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8C. Make a presentation to your mentor that describes the controversy, the competing theories, and your conclusions about how the scientific method can or cannot contribute to the resolution of the controversy.										
Submit a Supernova award application to the district or council Nova or advancement committee for approval.										
Completed										
Presented										