



## **QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE CHALLENGE**

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II celebrates 60 years of reign at the throne this year. She is the Head of State in the United Kingdom and 15 other Commonwealth Realms. She has several duties that have developed over a thousand years of British history. She is married to Prince Phillip, the Duke of Edinburgh, and they have four children, eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Queen Elizabeth II was born in 1926 and became Queen a few weeks before her 26<sup>th</sup> birthday in 1952. She is the second-longest reigning British monarch, but will have to reign until September 10<sup>th</sup> 2015, when she will be 89 years old, to reign longer than her great-great-grandmother Queen Victoria- who reigned for 63 years and 216 days, from 1837-1901.

A sixtieth anniversary or jubilee is traditionally known as a diamond anniversary or jubilee. The world's largest diamond is a pear shaped diamond weighing 530.20 carats, known as the Star of Africa. It measures 53mm x 44mm x 29mm, and was placed by King Edward in the Sovereign's Royal Sceptre as part of the Crown Jewels, and it is now on display in the Tower of London. It has an estimated value of over 400 million pounds!

*This challenge is open to all levels of guiding. Earn 60 points, one point for each year of her reign, to complete the challenge. Activities have different points awarded. Try to complete at least one activity from each area. You may complete more than one item from each category, individualize to your group. Be sure to challenge yourself!*

### Service (20 points)

1.) Gather items for "birthday boxes". Gather items that would contribute to a child's birthday (cake mix, icing, candles, balloons, paper plates,

etc.) Pack everything together (recycle a cookie case!) and deliver to a local shelter. Make as many boxes as you can. You can design them for a boy or girl, or a special theme if you want. Your birthday box can make a big difference in a child's life.

2.) Plant 60 flowers in a local green space or in pots. Be sure you have permission and take care.

3.) Start working on your Duke of Edinburgh award. See the program book or website for details. This provides you with an opportunity to improve and develop your own skills while contributing to the community at an impressive level. Invite someone who has completed one or several levels of their Duke of Edinburgh Award. Have them speak and answer questions on their experiences.

4.) To celebrate this wonderful event, at least 2,012 beacons will be lit across Britain, the Commonwealth, and around the world. Beacon-lighting has a long tradition in Britain, and has been used to celebrate royal weddings, jubilees and coronations. Once a communication tool, a beacon chain has become a symbol of unity, connecting cities, towns and villages across the UK. Light a beacon on June 4 at 10:30pm to join the celebration. Please refer to [www.diamondjubileebeacons.co.uk](http://www.diamondjubileebeacons.co.uk) for further information.

5.) If you are a Pathfinder, Ranger or Link, explore the idea of working towards your Commonwealth Award. Register and begin working on it!

6.) Spend 60 minutes with a senior citizen over the age of 60 and ask her to share some of the memories that she has of the queen's reign. Share memories of the queen that you may have, too.

#### Active Living (10 points)

1.) Try any of these "English Style" games: badminton, croquet, cricket or polo.

2.) Skip with a skipping rope 60 times without stopping, hop on one leg for 60 seconds, catch a ball 60 times, have a 60-meter race.

3.) Play 4 corners game, using the names of the Queen's four children as corner names. Prince Charles, Princess Anne, Prince Andrew and Prince Edward.

4.) In 2002, the Queen celebrated her Golden Jubilee (50 years). Part of the celebration was the Queen's Jubilee Baton Relay, when a message was carried across 23 countries before returning back to England. Try playing some relay games! You could try Chinese Whispers, the Hand-Squeezing game, the Fairies Relay race, just to name a few.

#### Arts and Crafts (10 points)

1.) Make and wear a fancy "fascinator" hat. Use any type of craft material available. Share your creation with the rest of your unit.

2.) Make your own "royal seal" using a carved potato and play dough.

3.) Find out the history of the Crown Jewels. Make a crown of your own.

4.) The Queen has her own personal flag and a royal Coat of Arms. Create a personal flag or Coat of Arms for your unit or patrol. Explain what all the parts represent and why.

#### Food and Drink (10 points)

1.) Hold a Royal Garden Party- Dress up in your finest garden party attire. Don't forget your gloves and hat! Host a tea party in your unit. Don't forget to hold your pinky in the air while drinking your tea. Speak with British accents. You can make cucumber sandwiches, scones, strawberries and cream or sticky toffee pudding to serve with your tea. Serve tea in china teacups if you can. This is also a wonderful opportunity for a bridging activity. You could also invite friends and family to refine your hostess skills.

2.) Pretend that you're planning a Royal gala event! Learn the traditions of Royal events—try to think about what kinds of foods are served, who might speak, what activities might take place and where it might be held. (Hint: think about a Royal wedding reception or a Coronation party.)

#### Music (5 points)

1.) Learn and perform "God Save the Queen". Sing it loud and sing it proud!

2.) Listen to some popular songs that were released around the time that Queen Elizabeth II took the throne. Do you recognize any of them? Do you like them? What makes them different from popular music today?

Something extra (5 points)

- 1.) Find out what “by royal appointment” means.
- 2.) Have a 60-minute silent meeting. Communicate using sign language or drawing pictures.
- 3.) Queen Elizabeth was just 25 when she became Queen. Discuss what you would like to achieve by the time you are 25. Create a poster, poem skit, song or rap to share your ideas.
- 4.) Challenge yourself to find as many Commonwealth countries on a map as you can. You can run this as a race between patrols if you want.
- 5.) What makes a diamond valuable? Find out how diamonds are classified and see how many shapes of cut diamonds you can find.
- 6.) On a map of your local area, see how many streets and landmarks are named after royalty or royal-related events!