

EXPERIMENT!

Simulate the growth of Stalactites and Stalagmites -

You will need:

- Shallow dish or saucer
- Jars (2)
- Paper Clips
- Spoon
- Epsom Salts
- Wool

- 1.) The two jars should be filled with hot water. Ideal jars would be those in which instant coffee is sold.
- 2.) Add Epsom salts to the jars until no more will dissolve. This will give you a saturated solution.
- 3.) Place the jars about 12 inches apart and join together with the piece of wool. The left-hand end of the wool should dip into the solution in the left-hand jar, the right-hand end of the wool should dip into the solution in the right-hand jar.
- 4.) Use the paperclips to weigh the wool at both ends.
- 5.) Place the saucer in the middle between the two jars and leave for two to three days.
- 6.) Capillary action will draw the solution from the jar and along the wool so that the solution drips into the saucer.
- 7.) Evaporation should result in the formation of a stalactite hanging from the wool and a stalagmite growing in the saucer.



“HOWE CAVERNS”

A NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCE

“CAVE CONSERVATION”

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

**RECYCLE - HELP TO KEEP THE
GROUNDWATER CLEAN**

&

WHEN YOU VISIT...

**TAKE NOTHING BUT PICTURES;
LEAVE NOTHING BUT
FOOTPRINTS;
KILL NOTHING BUT TIME!**

For more information about caves visit
www.caves.org

HOWE
CAVERNS

GO UNDERGROUND

SCAVENGER HUNT



Can you see a part of Howe Caverns
logo in this geode?

156 FEET DOWN

www.howecaverns.com

518-296-8900

HOWE CAVERNS SCOUT SCAVENGER HUNT

WELCOME TO HOWE CAVERNS!

We are proud to be able to offer you this opportunity to earn a new patch now available to Scouts. To earn your patch you must complete the scavenger hunt questions below. Your leader

will then send the patch order form to the Leatherstocking Council. Remember, a scout is always **Courteous**. Listen closely to your guides as they will have the answers to your questions!

And be sure to visit our website (www.howecaverns.com) and museum as there may be some assistance there also.

- 1.) **A Scout is Trustworthy:** A Scout tells the truth.

In February 1843, Lester Howe purchased the property (Howe Caverns) from Henry Wetsel. How much did How pay for the property?

- 2.) **A Scout is Loyal:** Loyal to your family, Scout leaders, friends, school and nation.

Day after day, Howe returned to his cave with a loyal friend, exploring more of the cave each time. What is the name of the loyal friend?

- 3.) **A Scout is Helpful:** He willingly does this for others to be helpful.
What farm animal was instrumental in helping Lester Howe discover the natural entrance to the cave?

- 4.) **A Scout is Friendly:** He is a friend to all.

A _____ is a flying mammal that swoops down to greet spelunkers.

- 5.) **A Scout is Courteous:** A scout is polite to all.

This area of the cave ranges from 18 inches to 6 feet wide, and from 5 to 45 feet in height (one must enter in single file). The _____ is an exciting example of water erosion, rarely found in any cave. It has a series of curves and corners that wind for nearly 300 feet through solid limestone.
- 6.) **A Scout is Kind:** A Scout treats others like he would like to be treated.

200 feet below ground, boats take cavern guests on a quarter-mile trip across the crystalline waters of...

The _____.
- 7.) **A Scout is Obedient:** A Scout follows rules and laws.

Early visitors often chipped off portions of the cavern formations as souvenirs. This is forbidden today because the precious formations are irreplaceable. Scouts are well aware of the importance of cave conservation and preservation. A _____ is a mineral deposit resembling an icicle hanging from the roof of a cave.
- 8.) **A Scout is Cheerful:** A scout tries to be cheerful and look on the bright side of things.

If this formation came to life (and smiled) she might have jagged teeth. This formation is called _____.

- 9.) **A Scout is Thrifty:** A Scout protects and conserves natural resources.

This above-ground activity is fun and educational. Using screen-bottomed boxes and a sluice, wash away the soil, and semi-precious gemstones appear. There is an identification card to help scouts identify their treasures. This activity is called _____.
- 10.) **A Scout is Brave:** A Scout can face danger even when they are afraid.

Lester Howe and Henry Wetsel are prime examples of people who explore caves. What name do we give someone that explores caves?

- 11.) **A Scout is Clean:** A Scout keeps a fit mind and body.

The Chinese Pagoda is a beautiful formation of ivory-tinted calcite which resembles an intricately carved Oriental temple. This is the largest stalagmite in the cave. It rises to 11 feet, 6 inches from the bed of the crystalline waters of...

The _____.
- 12.) **A Scout is Reverent:** A Scout is faithful in their duties.

Many weddings have taken place at this location in the cave, inducing Lester Howe's daughter, Harriet Elgiva. A heart carved from solid, four inch calcite is embedded in the Cavern floor. The name of the area where this calcite heart can be found is...

The _____.

Scouts should complete the attached scavenger hunt. When completed, fill out the form below and mail to the Leatherstocking Council office along with payment.

Unit _____ # _____ District _____ Council _____

Unit Leader _____ Phone # _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please forward to the address above _____ patches.

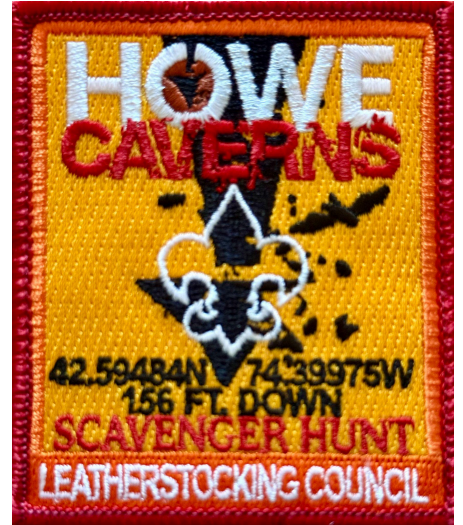
The current price for the patch plus postage is \$3.00 each.

Kindly make checks payable to:

Scouting America Leatherstocking Council

Mail this application to:

Leatherstocking Council
Scouting America
1401 Genesee St.
Utica, NY 13502



Answers for leaders:

- 1.) \$100
- 2.) Henry Wetsel
- 3.) Millicent the cow
- 4.) Bat
- 5.) Winding Way
- 6.) Lake of Venus
- 7.) Stalactite
- 8.) Witch of the Grottoes
- 9.) Gemstone Mining
- 10.) Spelunker
- 11.) River Styx
- 12.) Bridal Alter