Hello, World

Scouts BSA Nova Award Workbook

This workbook can help you but you still need to read the Scouts BSA Nova Awards Guidebook.
This Workbook can help you organize your thoughts as you prepare to meet with your counselor.
You still must satisfy your counselor that you can demonstrate each skill and have learned the information.
You should use the work space provided for each requirement to keep track of which requirements have been completed,
and to make notes for discussing the item with your counselor, not for providing full and complete answers.
If a requirement says that you must take an action using words such as "discuss", "show",
"tell", "explain", "demonstrate", "identify", etc, that is what you must do.

Counselors may not require the use of this or any similar workbooks.

No one may add or subtract from the official requirements found in the Scouts BSA Nova Awards Guidebook (Pub. 34033 – SKU 614936).

The requirements were issued in 2019 • This workbook was updated in June 2019.

Scout's Name:_____ ___   Unit: _____

Counselor's Name: _____ __   Counselor's Phone No.: _____

> **This award explores the world of coding or computer programming. Once you know how to code, you can teach a computer to perform programs that help you in many ways.**

○ **1** **Choose A or B or C and complete ALL the requirements.**

   ○ **A** Watch (not less than three hours total) computer-related shows or documentaries that involve computers, coding, and/or computer-related careers.

What was watched?	Date	Start Time	Duration

    Then do the following:

   ○ **1.** Make a list of at least five questions or ideas from the shows you watched.

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

○ **2.** **Discuss two of the questions or ideas with your counselor.**

○ **B** **Read (not less than three hours total) about computers, coding, and careers that involve computers.**

Date	Start Time	End Time	Duration

Then do the following:

○ **1.** **Make a list of at least five questions or ideas from the articles you read.**

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

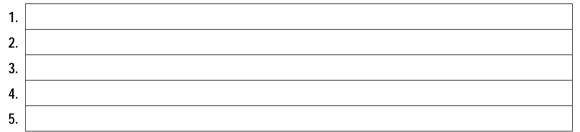○ **2** **Discuss two of the questions or ideas with your counselor.**

Scout's Name: _____

  ○   C   Do a combination of reading and watching (not less than three hours total).

What was read or watched?	Date	Start Time	Duration

       Then do the following:

  ○   1   Make a list of at least five questions or ideas from the articles you read or the shows you watched.

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

  ○   2   Discuss two of the questions or ideas with your counselor.

  ○   2   Complete ONE merit badge from the following list. (Choose one that you have not already used for another Nova award.)
         ○   **Programming**   ○   **Robotics**   ○   **Digital Technology**
       Discuss with your counselor how the merit badge you earned uses coding.

⊂ **3**   **Explore different concepts in computer programming. Discuss these programming concepts with your counselor:**

⊂   **A**   **What is the difference between a local and global variable?**

⊂   **B**   **What are integer, Boolean, floating point, and character data types and what values can each of these data types hold?**

Integer		
Boolean		
Floating Point		
Character		

⊂   **C**   **What is a scalar variable versus an array or list variable?**

⊂   **D**   **What are these types of control flow instructions, and how do they work?**

⊂   **1**   **A While Loop**

⊂   **2**   **A Do-While Loop**

○ 3 **For loop which performs a fixed number of iterations (i.e. For Loop)**

○ 4 **An If statement**

○ E **What is a function and when is it used?**

○ F **What is a parameter to a function?**

○ G **What is a key/value pair in a database?**

○ H **What is a Universal Resource Locator (URL) and where is it used??**

○ 4 **In a programming language of your choosing, do the following:**

○ A **Write a program that determines if an input string of characters is a palindrome.**

○ B **Write a program of your choice from the following list.**

   ○ 1 **A program that calculates the sum of a set of input numbers**

   ○ 2 **A program to report the largest and the smallest numbers from a set of input numbers.**

   ○ 3 **A program that calculates the average of a set of input numbers.**

   ○ 4 **A program that calculates the factorial of an input number.**

   ○ 5 **A program that calculates the sum of all numbers from a user input starting number to a user input ending number.**

These programs can be coded in a programming language such as App Lab -https://code.org/educate/applab

○ 5 **In a programming language that may be the same or different from the programing language used above, write a program selected from the following list. Work with your counselor to define the requirements — input from a user or from a file? Output to the screen or to a file? You may not use a GUI-based programming interface for this requirement, but a language like Python, Small Basic or Lisps (a family of powerful, syntax-light languages including Scheme or Common Lisp) would be appropriate.**

○ **A**   A program that generates a random whole number between 1 and 10 and then asks the user to guess the number. When the guess is not correct, the program tells the user that the guess is too high or too low and then asks the user to try again. The program completes when the user correctly guesses the number.

○ **B**   A program that correctly sorts in ascending order, a sequence of at least 15 input numbers.

○ **C**   A program that accepts input, performs a calculation on the input and produces an output based on the input. It must use a function with one or more parameters to perform the calculation.

○ **D**   A program that takes a set of at least 15 characters from a user and then displays the string in reverse order.

○ **E**   A program that displays an interactive webpage that accepts user input and modifies its display based on the input (See Web Lab -https://code.org/educate/weblab for example)

○ **F**   A computer game of your choosing which uses interactive characters, requires skill and reports a winner or a loser. (See Game Lab -https://code.org/educate/gamelab for example)

○ **G**   Any other computer program agreed on by you and your counselor that uses both variables and control flow instructions.

○ **6**   For the three programs you wrote for requirements 4 and 5, explain to your counselor how each of your programs works and why you chose the particular instructions and variables that you did.

○ **7**   Do ALL of the following requirements.

     ○ **A**   Visit a company/school/institution where computer programs are being developed.

     ○ **B**   Talk to someone there about how they use coding in their work. Write down at least five questions to ask the person you visit and review the answers with your counselor

     ○ **C**   Discuss with your counselor how coding is being used at the destination you visited.

○ **8**   Discuss with your counselor how coding affects your everyday life, and what you have learned while working on this Nova.