

Station Title: Purpose Station

Description: Fulfilling one's purpose does not come easy and it may take several attempts to reach the intended outcome. A leader must be able to work within a group to fulfill their individual purpose along with the teams. Each team will work together to assemble the OA Mission Statement relay environment from memory.

Station Background (For Trainer Reference):

Purpose - noun: the reason for which something is done or created or for which something exists.

Each of us had a purpose when we ran for our current positions. We had a goal in mind and wanted to make our Chapters, Lodges, Sections, Region, and National Organization better. We came in with new ideas and wanted to be a catalyst for change.

On July 8, 2024 the national OA committee unanimously voted to revise the Order of the Arrow's mission and purpose. We also adopted a vision statement for the first time in our history.

Over the past several years the national committee, under the leadership of Christina Clarke, has examined the OA's place in Scouting. We gathered input from Arrowmen, the leadership of Scouting America, parents and non-Arrowmen Scouts. This input made it clear the Order of the Arrow needed to make some slight but meaningful adjustments in its own mission and purpose to support Scouting America in the future.

The Order of the Arrow's purpose is now:

As Scouting's National Honor Society, we forge lifelong bonds among the leaders in Scouting and:

- *Recognize those who exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives and, through that recognition, cause others to act in the same way*
- *Reinforce a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others*
- *Create and deliver peer-led, adult-guided, advanced leadership experiences for Scouts and Scouters that positively impact their unit, community, and ultimately our nation*

- *Be an integral part of Scouting America and encourage participation in all it offers through units, outdoor adventures, and national events to further the Scouting experience*

That purpose is leading us towards a vision for the Order of the Arrow: *“To be why Scouts want to stay in Scouting.”*

To achieve that vision, the Order of the Arrow’s mission is now: *“To achieve the mission of Scouting America through transformative fellowship that ignites limitless Scouting journeys.”*

Our purpose defines who we are and the role we play in Scouting America. Our vision gives us a clear goal to strive towards in the coming decades. And our mission guides our leadership on a daily basis to achieve both of these things.

For learners to determine their own purpose they first must identify their values, as they will act as the guide for your purpose. Since a purpose cannot be fulfilled overnight, it is imperative to maintain discipline and keep your eyes set on the goal, avoiding distractions and remaining strong-willed to pursue what is best for the organization. While one individual can make a ripple of change, it takes a group to create a wave, making it essential for the group to buy into the idea for true success. Forming strong and meaningful relationships with fellow Arrowmen is critical, as it helps new members see their place in the OA and guides them to finding their purpose.

Fulfilling one’s purpose does not come easy and it may take several attempts to reach the intended outcome. They may face setbacks like forgetting the OA Mission statement in the activity. To both embrace and combat these changes, resilience is a necessity. Resilience allows us to bounce back and make the most of the current situations while striving to fulfill our purpose.

Activity Title: OA Mission Statement Relay (10 Minutes)

Activity Materials:

1. 20 Set of Cards with each word of OA Mission Printed On It
2. 1 Roll of Flagging Tape
3. 10 Stakes

Set Up Instructions:

1. Cut out the individual words of the OA Mission
2. Deposit them on one side of the field
3. Use the flagging tape to create a line (Past it the teams will assemble the Mission Statement)

Activity Instructions:

1. Explain the Importance of Having Purpose
 - a. Having a purpose gives actions meaning and makes each step forward feel meaningful and deliberate. If Arrowmen feel they have a purpose within the Order, they are more likely to engage with activities and seek to further the mission.
2. State the OA Mission Statement and ask them to remember as much as they can repeat until they feel ready.
 - a. The OA Mission Statement (Updated 2024) is below:

“To achieve the mission of Scouting America through transformative fellowship that ignites limitless Scouting journeys.”
3. Their goal is to recreate the above mission statement by transferring the cards from one side to the other.

Reflection/ Debrief:

This task emphasizes the importance of understanding and internalizing the mission of the Order of the Arrow. It also highlights the necessity of working together to achieve a common goal. The activity serves as a metaphor for how each individual's purpose contributes to the larger mission of the Order of the Arrow. Use the following questions to guide participants to this understanding:

1. What challenges did you face during the game, and how did you overcome them?
2. What is your personal purpose within the Order of the Arrow?
3. How does having a clear purpose impact your motivation and engagement in activities?
4. How do you maintain your commitment to your purpose when distractions arise?

----- No Print Below / Brainstorming -----

Why does my station's leadership concept matter?

Having a purpose gives actions meaning and makes each step forward feel meaningful and deliberate. Identifying your purpose can help spark energy, passion, and excitement for that the future might hold for individuals and the organization. If Arrowmen feel they have a purpose within the Order, they are more likely to engage with activities and seek to further the mission.

How does resilience play a role in my station's leadership concept of (values/relations/discipline/purpose)?

Fulfilling one's purpose does not come easy and it may take several attempts to reach the intended outcome. We face setbacks that can be unpredictable and opportunities may present themselves at unique moments. To both embrace and combat these changes, resilience is a necessity. Resilience allows us to bounce back and make the most of the current situations while striving to fulfill our purpose.

How is my station's value intertwined with the other concepts taught in the other stations?

Values: In order to determine your purpose you must first determine what your values are. The values that you align with will act as the guide for your purpose.

Discipline: A purpose can not be fulfilled overnight. To maintain a steady course towards our purpose it is imperative that we have discipline and keep our eyes set on the purpose. It can be easy to get distracted so we must be strong willed to keep pursuing what is best for our organization.

Relations: One individual can make a ripple of change but it takes a group to make a wave. In order for change to truly be successful, the group must buy into the idea which is why forming strong and meaningful relations with fellow Arrowmen is critical. When you form relations with new Arrowmen, they start to see a place for themselves in the OA which can guide them to finding their purpose.

What does purpose defined as? What does it mean in the context of OA leadership roles?

Purpose - *noun*: the reason for which something is done or created or for which something exists.

Each of us had a purpose when we ran for our current positions. We had a goal in mind and wanted to make our Chapters, Lodges, Sections, Region, and National Organization better. We came in with new ideas and wanted to be a catalyst for change.

What is the objective of the activity? How can we guide learners to this concept in a fun,engaging, manner?

Learning Objectives:

- **Remember** the Mission of the Order of the Arrow
- **Analyze** other defines of the OA's purpose to deepen their understanding
- **Apply** the purpose of the OA in local leadership experiences
- **Understand** how practicing resilience strengths our execution of the OA's mission

Objective: Correctly sort the words in the OA Mission while racing to have the fastest time.

Debrief:

Supplies:

- Laminated sets of cards with each word of the OA Mission (25 sets? (idk how many people we will have at a time))
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Brain Dump/Ideas:

- have a "leaderboard" going for fastest times (don't know how feasible that is but the fastest times at the end could get a lil prize) (rn I am thinking a lil laser engraved lodge flap that has the mission or something Project 5430 related on it could be cool - I can arrange to have that made if that's the route we go)

What steps can we take to ensure that the reflective segment of the station is effective and engages all types of learners and leaders? How can we prompt Arrowmen to connect v/.s just exist at our station?

Steps: