

Highlight a Scout:

Derek Smith

The fifth Scout in Arizona's 105-year history to earn every merit badge that the Boy Scout program offers



Derek Smith's Scouting journey began as a young Cub Scout in Pennsylvania. He continued to Boy Scouts and had the honor of becoming an Eagle Scout in October of 2013, earning 41 merit badges up to that point. Once Derek moved to Arizona in 2014, he started earning merit badges at a rapid pace through meeting with merit badge counselors and attending merit badge clinics which were not available to him in Pennsylvania. He strategically planned and researched requirements for merit badges which made him ultimately successful in his pursuit to earn every merit badge offered. Although, he hit roadblocks, Derek never gave up on his goal. Derek wrote in a letter to the council, "The most difficult Merit Badge that I earned was Water Sports. I tried for over a year with three different adults. I finally earned it on September 29, 2016 with a Water Skiing Instructor at Lake Havasu." Derek is currently working on earning all the awards that BSA offers and continuing to earn Eagle Palms. He remains active in his troop serving as the Junior Assistant Scoutmaster and the new Wipala Wiki Lodge Chief.

Derek Smith, The Grand Canyon Council thanks you for your dedication to Scouting and we look forward to seeing what you accomplish in the future!