

The Cub Scout Program

Introduction To Cub Scouting

"There is a battle of significant consequence taking place in the lives of boys in America today. In simple terms, it is the battle between doing what is right or wrong. A recent study conducted by Louis Harris & Associates indicates that the proportion of boys choosing to do what is wrong is alarmingly high. Even basic values such as not cheating on schoolwork and not stealing seem to be unstable.

Clearly, the results of this study indicate that our nation's youth are struggling with ethical and moral decisions, and that these difficulties can only increase with age. Therefore, the need for reinforcing and rewarding strong moral standards and providing positive role models at a young age is more important than ever before.

Cub Scouting creates a climate of cooperative and collaborative relationships between adults and --a laboratory for adults and children to get to know one another. It provides opportunities for children to acquire the capacity for accomplishment. The program affirms to the child that the world really is an interesting place.

Cub Scouting is fun! But it is fun with a purpose. Woven through all the fun is an inspired program that really works. Tried and proven methods are used that transfer traditional values, build character, and develop leadership skills -- all in the context of fun and family togetherness."

(BSA: Operation Tiger Mania 1996)

What is Cub Scouting?

A Little History

Aims of Scouting

Purposes of Cub Scouting

Methods of Cub Scouting

Duty to God and Country

Family Involvement

In Summary

What is Cub Scouting?

In short, Cub Scouting is a family-centered program for boys in the 1st through 5th grade, designed to instill strong moral values; build character, fitness, and confidence; and develop citizenship and leadership skills ... all within the framework of fun activities.

Cub Scouting is boys and their families working together in a quality time-tested program. Cub Scouting offers opportunities to develop new interests and skills, participate in sports and competitive activities, fulfill a boy's desire for adventure through an active outdoor program, and gain confidence, self respect and a sense of belonging. Cub Scouting offers a well-defined advancement plan designed to encourage the natural interests of a boy in a natural way and teaches them to "do their best".

Cub Scouting is also a neighborhood-centered program supported and enabled by community partners, "Chartered Organizations", such as a local church, school, or community organization. Cub Scouting is designed to strengthen family ties and to improve the life of their community by enriching the lives of the people who live there. Cub Scouting provides opportunities for boys to reach out into their communities and "help others" as they take part in service projects and other community-related activities.

Cub Scouting teaches "duty to God and Country". Scouting has always been known for service to others, a foundation of good citizenship. Patriotism also plays a significant role in preparing our nation's youth to become useful and participating citizens. The Boy Scouts of America believes that no member can grow into the best kind of citizen without also recognizing an obligation to God, and encourages both youth and adult leaders to be faithful in their religious duties.



Cub Scouting provides positive role models to guide boys in making ethical choices and developing strong values. As leaders, you have both the responsibility and the opportunity to positively influence a boy's development and to help families better understand their sons by providing a quality fun-filled program. By better understanding the Aims, Purposes, and Methods of the Cub Scouting program, you will be able to more easily conduct that "quality fun-filled program".

A Little History

The world of Scouting was conceived and developed by one man, Sir Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell, in England in the early years of the 20th century. He tested his ideas out on twenty boys in a camping experiment at Brownsea Island in 1907. The next year, he published his book "Scouting for Boys". That book set in motion a movement which quickly spread around the world and continues to this day.

Chicago businessman and publisher, William D. Boyce, after a trip to England brought scouting to the United States in 1909. As the story goes, he was lost in a London fog when a boy appeared and offered to take him to his destination. When Mr. Boyce tried to tip him for his kindness, the boy stopped Mr. Boyce by courteously explaining that he was a Scout and could not accept payment for a good turn. Intrigued, Mr. Boyce questioned the Scout, who took him to Baden-Powell's office, and then disappeared into the fog. The "unknown Scout" was never heard from again, but he will never be forgotten. At the Scout Training Center at Gilwell Park, England a statue of a buffalo was erected in honor of this "unknown Scout". His good turn is what brought Scouting to our country. On February 8, 1910 Mr. Boyce incorporated the Boy Scouts of America, which is why we celebrate Scouting's birthday with Blue and Gold Banquets every February.

By the 1920's, millions of Cub Scout-aged boys and their families were clamoring for a program of their own. After a few years of demonstration projects, Cub Scouting was formally launched in 1930. In 1982 the Tiger Cub program was added based on shared leadership of boy-adult teams.

The Scouting program is updated periodically to keep pace with a changing world. It isn't the same as it was on Brownsea Island in 1907, but the ideals of Scouting remain the same. Its ideals are still based on the principles Baden-Powell had been taught as a boy. Scouting continues to be sensitive to the needs of young people everywhere.

(Learn more about Scouting's history in Chapter 1 of your "Cub Scout Leader Book")

Aims of Scouting

There are three broad objectives of the Boy Scouts of America, which are contained in their charter issued by the U. S. Congress in June 1916:

- to build desirable qualities of character
- to train in the responsibilities of participating citizenship
- to develop personal fitness

These "Aims" are progressively applied, woven into all Scouting programs (Tigers, Cubs, Webelos, Boy Scouts, Venturing, and Exploring) with the goal of teaching boys important human values that will help and guide them the rest of their lives.

Character - - Citizenship - - Personal Fitness

Purposes of Cub Scouting

The Cub Scout program is designed for parents, leaders, and organizations to work together to achieve the following:

- Influence the development of character and encourage spiritual growth.
- Develop habits and attitudes of good citizenship.
- Encourage good sportsmanship and pride in growing strong in mind and body.
- Improve understanding within the family.



- Strengthen the ability to get along with other boys and respect other people.
- Foster a sense of personal achievement by developing new interests and skills.
- Show how to be helpful and do one's best.
- Provide fun and exciting new things to do.
- Prepare a boy to be a Boy Scout.

We achieve the purposes of Cub Scouting through the fun-filled activities we plan. Some significant things happen while the boys are having fun. From their point of view, fun is the most important thing. At the same time, they gain worthwhile values and lessons without realizing it. Baden-Powell recognized this as a powerful tool from the very first beginnings of the movement. "Fun with a purpose" is not just a catchy slogan, it's the glue that binds the various pieces of the program together and makes it all work. All activities planned by leaders and enjoyed by the boys should relate to one or more of these purposes. These purposes help us achieve the overall aims of the Boy Scouts of America.

Methods of Cub Scouting

Cub Scouting uses seven specific methods to achieve the aims of Character, Citizenship, and Personal Fitness. These methods are incorporated into all aspects of the program. The importance of understanding how these methods are intended to work cannot be over-emphasized!

Home & Neighborhood Centered

Cub Scouting happens in the homes and neighborhoods, after school and community centers, churches and fellowship halls, in large cities, small towns, and rural communities - wherever boys live. It is intended to be a part of the fabric of the community and, thereby, to improve and enrich the lives of the people who live there.

Family involvement

Family involvement is an essential part of Cub Scouting. When we speak of parents or families, we are not referring to any particular structure. Whoever a boy calls his family is the family we are talking about. Cub Scouting is a program put on by the families of the boys for their benefit and, by that very process strengthens family bonds.

Advancement Plan

Recognition is important to boys. The well-defined advancement plan provides fun for boys, gives them a sense of personal achievement as they earn badges, and strengthens family understanding as adult family members work with boys on advancement projects.

The Den

Boys like to belong to a group. They have fun in den meetings, during indoor and outdoor activities, and on field trips. As part of a small group (6-10 boys), they are able to learn sportsmanship and good citizenship, how to get along with others, and how to do their best, not just for themselves but also for the den. The den is the place the boys learn new skills and develop interests in new things.

Ideals

The Cub Scout Promise, which is a pledge of good citizenship; the Law of the Pack, a simple formula for good Cub Scouting; and the Cub Scout Motto, "Do Your Best", are but a few. Such symbols as the Cub Scout sign, handshake, salute, and living circle all add a sense of mystery and exclusiveness that most boys enjoy, and add to the appeal of belonging to a widely respected organization.

Uniform

The Cub Scout and Webelos uniforms help build pride, loyalty, and self-respect. Wearing the uniform to all den and pack meetings and activities also encourages good behavior and a neat appearance.



Activity Program

Boys will participate in a wide variety of den and pack activities. These help fulfill a boy's desire for adventure and allows him to use his vivid imagination while taking part in skits, games, songs, trips, outdoor activities, and more. The use of monthly themes lets a boy play the role of an astronaut, cowboy, Native American, knight, or other exciting character. There is adventure in exploring the outdoors, learning about nature, and gaining a greater appreciation of our beautiful world. There is also the Cub Scout Sports and Academics program, which includes individual achievement and family involvement recognition.

In summary, it is through these methods that Cub Scouting happens in the lives of boys and their families. All of these methods are discussed in more detail later in this training and in your Cub Scout Leader Book.

Duty to God and Country

Scouting has long been known for service to others. "Duty to Country" starts with being a good citizen and is an obligation of service to others. This means caring about the people in our communities and helping those in need. We believe patriotism also plays a significant role in preparing our nation's youth to become useful and participating citizens. This includes obeying the law and using our country's resources carefully. We show our love of country by respecting and saluting the U.S. flag and standing at attention when our national anthem is played.

The Boy Scouts of America believes that no member can grow into the best kind of citizen without also recognizing an obligation, a "duty", to God and encourages both youth and adult leaders to be faithful in their religious duties. This includes remembering to thank God for good friends, good health, and all the things he provides for us, including our family and those who love and help us.

"Duty to God" is an essential part of Scouting, however, the Boy Scouts of America is completely nonsectarian in its attitude toward that duty. This means we make no attempt to determine how a member accomplishes his duty to God. As citizens of the United States of America, we believe in religious freedom. That is why we respect others whose religion may be different than ours, even though we may not agree with their beliefs.

Religious Emblems Programs: Most major churches and religious bodies in the United States have religious emblems programs, which recognize Cub Scouts who demonstrate faith, observe their religious creeds or principles, and give service. Many denominations also award religious emblems for adults.

It should be noted that boys must complete religious requirements to earn their Wolf, Bear, and Webelos badges. As the boys complete these requirements, we are helping them understand their "duty to God" as determined by their family.

Family Involvement

Cub Scouting is a FAMILY program; it always has been. Cub Scout parents have always been encouraged to help their Cub Scout with advancement work, attend pack meetings, become den and pack leaders, and help conduct activities. In fact, FAMILY involvement is so vital to Cub Scouting's success that without it, there can be no Cub Scouting. Recognizing this, the Boy Scouts of America developed the BSA Family Program to strengthen family ties and encourage family involvement in Scouting.

BSA Family Program: The BSA Family Program helps parents strengthen their family ties in two ways. It gives parents specific ideas for drawing their families together through family talks and other activities. It also provides a framework for meetings of pack parents every three months at which parents can draw support from one another and share their successes in enhancing family life.

The key to the program is the BSA Family Book. It is chock-full of suggestions to enhance a child's personal development and enrich family life. In much the same way as Cub Scouts and Webelos Scouts use their handbooks to earn badges and awards, the family uses the BSA Family Book to earn the BSA Family Award.

One of the purposes of Cub Scouting is improving understanding within the family. Packs that promote Cub Scouting's BSA Family Program will be doing a real service because most parents place a high priority on their families and want to improve and strengthen their families. Packs supporting this program will also find that it



increases parental participation in Cub Scouting and thereby makes a stronger pack. So urge your Cub Scout families to participate in the BSA Family Program and use the BSA Family Book.

("Scouting" magazine, available to registered leaders, has a regular feature called "Family Talk" that offers ongoing support for BSA families)

The Family's Responsibilities: Cub Scouting gives families an opportunity to spend quality time together. It is the leader's role to provide interest, skill, and time in developing a good program. The family provides help and support for the den and pack. Families can help in many ways, including:

- Working with their sons on achievements and electives
- Attending and assisting at den and pack meetings
- Providing ways for their sons to earn money needed for den dues
- Providing help to the leadership when asked
- Conducting activities and den outings
- Assisting with transportation needs
- Participation at fund raisers, district and council events
- Just to mention a few.

Advancement Responsibilities: The Advancement Program is an excellent opportunity for families to get to know their own son better, and there is much satisfaction to be gained both on the part of the families and the boy. The den leader should discuss achievements and electives or activity badge areas with the families so they fully understand the importance of following the requirements as closely as possible. Emphasize that the boy won't be able to accomplish some of the achievements without the family's help.

The Pack's responsibilities to Families: Working, single-parent, and non-parent families are realities of today's society. Cub Scout leaders must be sensitive to these family situations. In a single-parent family, the burden of parenting is often carried alone, with obviously limited time and energy. With only one wage earner, often with additional expenses for childcare and baby-sitters, some families are forced to watch every dime. Take care not to embarrass any Cub Scout because of lack of funds. A single parent may not have as much time to devote to Cub Scouting as do the parents in two-parent homes. Likewise, in a home in which both parents work, schedules can be tight, getting to den and pack meetings difficult, and chances for the adults to participate in Cub Scouting not easy to arrange.

Cub Scouters need to be creative and understanding in helping all types of families to participate as fully as possible in the program. You, as leaders, must recognize that not all families can participate equally or in the same way. To feel welcome, some families need to be reached out to.

Just as parents have obligations to the pack, the pack has the following responsibilities to the parents:

- Provide a well-planned, year-round program of activities that meets the Aims of Scouting and, more specifically, the Purposes of Cub Scouting and the needs of boys.
- Provide trained, qualified, and enthusiastic leaders for all den pack meetings and activities.
- Provide training for parents and keep them informed.
- Provide activities that help strengthen the family and give them opportunities to work and play together.
- Help families participate in Cub Scouting according to each family's unique ability to do so.

(Learn more about Family Involvement in Chapter 15 of your [Cub Scout Leader Book](#))

In Summary

In Cub Scouting, a framework is provided with guidelines upon which to build, but that is just the beginning. All of the activities will affect the growth and development of boys. We must remember that our ultimate objectives are citizenship training, character development, and personal fitness.

Scouting, as a worldwide brotherhood, is unique and different. It is based on the principles of duty to God and country, human dignity and the rights of individuals, and the obligations of all members to develop and use their potential. It is a movement that brings out the best in people. It is one of the few programs in the world today where the emphasis is not on winning as an end result, but on the far more demanding and rewarding task of "doing one's



best”.

Cub Scouting can in many cases be the most positive experience in a young boy's life. Scouting can be a real growth experience for children, unequaled by any other. As Leaders, you have an important responsibility in your hands.

Do your best!

Cub Scouting - - A Parent's Call to Action

The Pack

The Pack is a group made up of several [dens](#). The Pack includes not only the boys in those dens, but also their families, and their leaders. The Pack meets once a month with Cub Scouts, leaders, parents and other family members attending. The Pack meeting is the climax of the month's den meetings and activities. It gives the dens something to look forward to and work toward. This is a chance to recognize the boys, their parents, and their leaders.

In addition to its regular meetings, the Pack sponsors certain special projects. These include community projects (e.g., a Thanksgiving Food Drive for the needy), outdoor activities (e.g., field trips, family campouts, etc.), fundraising activities, and fun competitions (e.g., Pinewood car Derby).

The [Cubmaster](#) is an adult volunteer who serves as master of ceremonies at all Pack meetings and leads Pack activities of all kinds. [Pack leadership](#) positions may be held by women or men.

The [Pack Committee](#) is a group of adult volunteers who plan the Pack program and individual activities as well as managing such things as record keeping, finance, leadership recruitment, and registration. The Pack Committee meets monthly and meetings are open to any interested parent.

The Den

A Cub Scout Pack is divided into small groups of about eight boys called dens, who meet weekly under the direction of adult Den Leaders and, in some cases, [Boy Scout Den Chiefs](#). The Den Leaders are trained parent volunteers.

The den allows boys to get to know each other better and engage in activities that would be difficult in a larger group. The den also provides leadership opportunities for the boys as they elect "Denners" or help to teach each other.

Den meeting activities are planned around the monthly theme and include games, handicrafts, hikes and other outdoor fun, practicing skits and stunts in preparation for the next Pack meeting and taking part in simple ceremonies and songs. Sometimes work on advancement requirements is included, but the boys accomplish most of that work with their parents (see details on the Webelos rank for an exception). The Den Leaders may ask for special help occasionally from parents (helping with a meeting, sharing a special skill, or just providing a snack for the boys).

Dens are organized by rank. Ranks are organized by [grade and age](#):

- Tiger Cub Dens
- Bear Dens
- Wolf Dens
- Webelos Dens, usually a first year Den and a second year Den

(The above was taken from Pack 1113 parents' manual, Washington, D.C.)

Grade and Age

Several years ago joining and advancement requirements for Cub Scouting were changed to a grade basis (with age as backup). Age is still used by some packs whose national organization has made that determination. As a refresher, here are some age/grade requirements. Keep in mind that grade is the primary determination and age is the backup (note the work "or"):

- TIGER CUBS -- In the first grade, (or 7 years old)
- CUB SCOUTS (Wolves and Bears) -- In the second and third grade, (or 8 or 9 years old)



- WEBELOS SCOUTS -- In the fourth and fifth grade, (or 10 years old)
- ARROW OF LIGHT -- Six months since completing the fourth grade, or six months since turning 10.
- BOY SCOUTS -- Completed the fifth grade, or age 11, or have earned the Arrow of Light.

The Pack Leadership

The pack leadership consists of Den Leaders, [Den Leader Coach](#), the [Chartered Organization Representative](#), the [Pack Committee Chairperson](#), the [Pack Committee](#) and the [Cubmaster](#). These are adult positions. Let's look at what each one accomplishes in a Pack.

The Pack Committee

The Pack Committee takes care of the administrative needs of the pack. It is organized and chaired by the Pack Committee Chairperson. The committee consists of at least three people and is responsible for:

- Finding a meeting place
- Setting the Pack policies in accordance with Boy Scouting and the chartered organization.
- Coordinating the Pack program with that of the charter organization.
- Assist with the annual Pack charter renewal.
- Is responsible for carrying out the policies and regulations of the Boy Scouts of America.
- Provides encouragement to leaders in carrying out the Pack program.
- Provides the finances and fundraising coordination for the Pack.
- Is responsible for Pack property.
- Is responsible for the quality of the adult leadership, that the leadership is recruited and trained. This is all adult leadership, including Cubmaster.
- Responsible for recommending this leadership to the charter organization for final approval.
- Coordination between the Pack and other scouting units.

A good Pack Committee consists of the following people:

- Chartered Organization Representative
- Pack Committee Chair
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Advancement
- Public Relations
- Membership and Registration
- Sustaining Membership Enrollment Chairperson (a.k.a. Friends of Scouting)
- Cubmaster (is not a voting member)
- Den Leader Coach(es) (non voting member)

Chartered Organization Representative

This person is the liaison between the Pack, the chartered organization, and the BSA. They make sure that the chartered organization is aware of what the Pack is doing, and coordinates activities between the chartered organization and the Pack. It is also the responsibility of the chartered organization representative to communicate any relevant policies that the charter organization has to the Pack committee.

A point that a new Scouter often misses is that the chartered organization 'owns' the Pack, not the Pack committee. The Pack committee is simply an administrative arm of the chartered organization.



The Chartered Organization Representative is a voting member of the local BSA Council and District committees. As such, they represent the Pack on these committees.

If the chartered organization has more than one unit (e.g., a Pack and a Troop) the Chartered Organization Representative serves all.

Pack Committee Chairperson

The Pack Committee Chairperson organizes and facilitates the running of the Pack committee.

This person works with the Cubmaster and Chartered Organization Representative to make sure that the responsibilities of the Pack Committee are being met.

For more information, see the section on [the Pack Committee](#).

The Cubmaster

The Cubmaster, who is sometimes referred to as the unit leader, is up front. Most parents think they run the show all by themselves. Now you know different. So what does a Cubmaster do? Plenty!

The Cubmaster is responsible for:

- Conducting the pack program, which includes leading the monthly Pack meeting, with the help of the other leaders.
- Guiding, supporting, motivating, and inspiring the other adult leaders. Make sure they receive training for their positions.
- Making sure the dens are functioning well.
- Planning the den and pack programs with the help of the other leaders.
- Coordinating the total Cub Scout program for the pack.
- Helping recruit den leaders and coaches.
- Establishing and maintaining good relationships with Boy Scout Troops.

The Den Leader Coach

The den leader coach is responsible for ensuring stable, active and enthusiastic den leaders for all Cub Scout and Webelos dens. They also help to insure that:

- Leaders complete Fast Start and Cub Scout Leader Basic Training.
- A Den Leader Coach Seminar is conducted for the leaders.
- Leaders attend the monthly roundtables.
- Leaders understand the purposes, policies and procedures of the chartered organization and the Boy Scouts of America.
- Help is available for new Den leaders.
- Cub Scout leader recognition awards are available to the leaders.
- Monthly coach-den leader meetings are held to help plan den activities and programs.
- Information about the current and up to date program literature and material, is passed on to Den leaders.
- No den is ever without a leader and assistant.
- New den leaders are recruited.
- There is a communications link (usually the den leader coach) between the Cubmaster and the Den leaders.

Want to learn more? The major source for this information is [The Cub Scout Leader Book](#).

You may also wish to take a look at the [Cub Scout Promise, Law and Motto](#), which set the standards for Cub Scouts. You may also want to take a look at the [History](#) of the Boy Scouts of America.



The Den Chief

The Den Chief is a Boy Scout from a nearby troop who, usually, has achieved at least the rank of First Class. The Den Chief is a trained leader who assists a Den Leader in the running of a Den. The Den Chief should attend most Den meetings, most Pack meetings and most Den outings. "Most" is used here, because the Boy Scout will have homework from school, other Scouting activities and family concerns that will keep him from attending all events. But, the Den Chief **MUST** stay in contact with the Den Leader, and let her or him know ahead of time when he will not be available.

It is the Den Chief's duty to assist the Cub Scouts in their den with the projects and activities of the Den. His duty also is to encourage, guide and protect them in all Den and Pack activities, and to show them by his example what a Boy Scout is.

Webelos Den Chiefs also will work to interest the Webelos Scouts in becoming Boy Scouts.

The Den Chief Pledge

I promise to help the Cub Scouts (or Webelos Scouts) in my den to the best of my ability; to encourage, guide, and protect them in all den and pack activities; and to show them by my example what a Boy Scout is.

I will strive to be prompt and dependable, and to cooperate with the leaders in carrying out the den program.

As each Cub Scout completes the third grade, I will encourage him to join a Webelos den.

As he becomes eligible, I will do all in my power to interest him in becoming a Boy Scout.

Den Chief Training

When the Boy Scout attends the all day Den Chief Training event, he will learn the following:

- Describe the role and responsibilities of the Den Chief in the troop pack and den
- Explain what a good song leader needs to know and do
- Demonstrate at least five dual contests and tricks to use at a den meeting
- Describe his relationship to the den leader and how that relates to his conduct in the den
- Explain how to lead den games; describe two quiet games and two active games
- List six midway games, how they are made and how they are played
- As a Cub Scout Den Chief, name four hands-on puzzles and tell how they work
- As a Webelos Den Chief, describe how you could help in two specific activity badges
- List five ways in which you would work with and help your den leader
- List three ways a den chief can be helpful to a boy in the den
- Name and explain the different parts of a den meeting
- Describe two activities that could be used in a gathering period
- Lead two different openings and closings at a den meeting
- Tell two different ways to
 1. Incorporate the theme in taking attendance
 2. Helping the Denner to succeed.

Den Chief Awards

While the Boy Scout is serving as Den Chief he can wear the Den Chief leadership patch, and also the Den Chief multi-colored cord on his shoulder. If the Boy Scout serves for a full year and completes the requirements for Den Chief Service Award, he is given a special multi-colored cord, which he can wear on his shoulder throughout the rest of his Scouting career.

To earn the Den Chief Service Award, the Boy Scout must do the following:

1. Serve the pack faithfully for 1 full year.
2. Attend a den chief training conference (if available within year of service) OR be trained by the



Cubmaster.

3. Know the purposes of Cub Scouting.
4. Help Cub Scouts achieve the purpose of Cub Scouting.
5. Be the activity assistant in den meetings.
6. Set a good example by attitude and uniforming.
7. Be a friend to the boys in the den.
8. Take part in weekly meetings.
9. Assist the den at the monthly pack program.
10. Know the importance of the monthly theme.
11. Meet as needed with the adult members of the den, pack or troop.
12. Complete four of these projects:
 - a. Serve as a staff member of a Cub Scout special event, such as a Scouting show, bicycle rodeo, etc.
 - b. Serve as a staff member of a Cub Scout Day camp.
 - c. Advance one Boy Scout rank.
 - d. Assist in recruiting three new Cub Scouts.
 - e. Assist three Webelos Scouts to join a troop.
 - f. Help to plan and carry out a joint pack-troop activity.
 - g. Recommend another Boy Scout to be a den chief to your Scoutmaster.



Management of Boys

Objectives

As a result of this training experience you will be able to

- List guidelines for creating a manageable environment in den meetings
- List suggestions for creating den rules
- Use Ethics in Action activities to increase cooperation within the den
- Identify character traits that help a leader manage boys
- Discuss integrating Cub Scouts with disabilities into the den
- Use creative ways to reinforce positive behavior in a den
- Discuss how to manage problem situations

The Manageable Environment

- The leader provides well-planned meetings
- The pack provides enough supervision for the den
- The boys develop a set of simple den rules
- Parents support the den leader
- Establish den routines
- Define and communicate procedures for how you want things to be done in the den meeting
- Vary lesson presentation & use of media
- Keep lesson moving & interesting
- Have meeting area setup before boys arrive
- Have materials ready
- Move around the room
- Tell boys what is expected
- Give clear and understandable directions
- Let boys know what to do when task is completed
- Explain rules often
- Expect age appropriate behavior

Den Rules

- The den leader helps guide the boys as the den develops the den rules
- There are no more than four rules
- Rules are positive and do not contain the word “no”
- Rules include respect for others and responsibility for self
- Boys sign the poster, or contract, of rules to show agreement
- Rules may be displayed at each den meeting
- Rules must have consequences to enforce them and rewards to validate them
- Teach behavior
- Establish standards of acceptable behavior
- Be consistent
- Enforce all rules that have been made
- Never argue with the boys
- Use calm warnings



- Explain rules often

Handle with Care

- Boys sometimes just need a verbal warning. Be specific about the behavior and do not demean or embarrass the boy.
- Some boys need a short "time out" period during which they do not participate in the den activities.
- If a boy is completely out of control, remove him from the rest of the group and call his parent.
- A consistently disruptive boy may need to have his parent attend den meetings to supervise him.
- In some circumstances a boy may need to be placed in a different den. This option would need the pack committee's endorsement.

- Master the "Scouter Look" or stare and practice the staring technique in front of a mirror over and over

STARE, really stare, at the boy to stop the misbehavior

if he doesn't stop, calmly walk to the boy

Lean over and place your hand on the boy's shoulder, lightly

WHISPER into the boys ear or face

Say the name

TELL the boy what you want him to do

SAY, "Thank you"

STARE at the boy and WAIT three seconds

Leave the boy with an affirmative SMILE

Leader and Boy Relationship

- Be positive. Attitude is everything
- Be a good listener
- Be consistent and fair in all dealings with boys
- Be a good example (Promise, Motto, and Law of the Pack)
- Be aware that circumstances outside of Scouting may affect a boy's behavior at a den meeting
- Be sensitive to the wide range of interests, talents, and abilities of the boys in the den
- Demonstrate "with-it-ness"
- Be consistent
- Be reasonable in what you say and do
- Enforce all rules that have been made
- Discipline in private
- Be sure your consequences are legal, mild, appropriate, and non-personal
- Don't make idle threats
- Never argue with a boy
- Avoid power struggles
- Don't act as if you expect trouble
- Resist using sarcasm at all costs
- Remain calm; try to never lose your temper
- Do use the "broken record" technique
- Don't force public confessions
- Don't embarrass a boy in front of his peers



- "Say what you mean, mean what you say, and do what you say you are going to do".

Positive Reinforcement

- Den doodles
- Positive comments
- Certificates
- Good behavior notes to parents
- Treats (food, activity, game, song)
- Stickers
- Marble jar
- Sometimes the best reward is the satisfaction of a job well done
- Get caught praising one of your boys, or your den, to someone
- Brag about your den at the pack meeting
- Offer a smile, high five, pat, punch, or handshake for a job well done
- Praise for the deed, encouragement for the person

Children with Disabilities

- Usually problems decrease when the den leader learns about the disability and learns how to adapt the program to the boy's needs
- Understanding Cub Scouts with Disabilities, No.33839
- Scouting for Youth with Emotional Disabilities, No. 32998A
- Utilize your resources: parents, Internet, roundtable, scout shop
- Be an informed, involved, and concerned leader
- Meet with the boys parents, or guardian, about the disability

Ethics in Action

- Cub Scout Leader How-To Book, No.33832, Chapter 11
- Ethics in Action activities can help create a positive den atmosphere
- Teach behavior skills that encourage cooperation and understanding within the den
- Be a Friend, Caring and Sharing Differences, Hard Lessons, and What We Say



PLANNING FOR SUCCESS

THE SIX STEPS OF PLANNING

1 CONSIDER THE TASK



Establish the purpose, goals and objectives.



2 CONSIDER THE RESOURCES



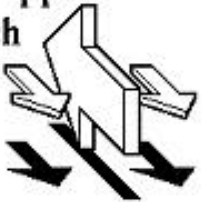
Who (personnel), What (items needed), Where (facilities), When (time), and How (skills). What is available to you? What can you make? Who can help?



3 CONSIDER THE ALTERNATIVES



Develop several alternative approaches. Test each alternative. Which will work best to meet your goals & objectives?



4 WRITE DOWN THE PLAN



Write down your plan - include lists of responsibilities, resources needed, how you will execute, when & where.



PRIOR PROPER PLANNING PREVENTS PRETTY POOR PROGRAMS



5 EXECUTE



Stay with your plan, if possible. But remain flexible, if things change. Always have PLAN B ready!



6 EVALUATE



What could have been done better? How can we improve next time? Problems? How can they be resolved? Recognition!



