

AIMS OF SCOUTING AND PURPOSES AND METHODS OF CUB SCOUTING

The Cub Scouting program has 10 purposes related to the overall aims of the Boy Scouts of America—to build character, learn citizenship, and develop personal fitness.

Character Development Respectful Relationships

Spiritual Growth Personal Achievement

Good Citizenship Friendly Service

Sportsmanship and Fitness Fun and Adventure

Family Understanding Preparation for Boy Scouts

Every Cub Scouting activity should help fulfill one of these purposes. When considering a new activity, ask which purpose or purposes it supports.

The Methods of Cub Scouting

To accomplish its purposes and achieve the overall goals of building character, learning citizenship, and developing personal fitness, Cub Scouting uses seven methods:

Living the Ideals—Cub Scouting’s values are embedded in the Scout Oath and Scout Law, the Cub Scout motto, and the Cub Scout sign, handshake, and salute. These practices help establish and reinforce the program’s values in boys and the leaders who guide them.

Belonging to a Den—The den—a group of six to eight boys who are about the same age—is where Cub Scouting starts. In the den, Cub Scouts develop new skills and interests, they practice sportsmanship and good citizenship, and they learn to do their best, not just for themselves but for the den as well.

Using Advancement—Recognition is important to boys. The advancement plan provides fun for the boys, gives them a sense of personal achievement as they build skills and capabilities, and strengthens family understanding as adult family members and their den leader work with boys on advancement adventures.

Involving Family and Home—Whether a Cub Scout lives with two parents or one, a foster family, or other relatives, his family is an important part of Cub Scouting. Parents and adult family members provide leadership and support for Cub Scouting and help ensure that boys have a good experience in the program.

Participating in Activities—Cub Scouts participate in a huge array of activities including games, projects, skits, stunts, songs, outdoor activities, family camps, trips, and service projects. Webelos dens may have den campouts. Besides being fun, these activities offer opportunities for growth, achievement, and family involvement.

Serving Home and Neighborhood—Cub Scouting focuses on the home and neighborhood. It helps boys strengthen connections to their local communities, which in turn support the boys' growth and development.

Wearing the Uniform—Cub Scout uniforms serve a dual purpose, demonstrating membership in the group (everyone is dressed alike) and individual achievement (boys wear the badges they have earned). Wearing the uniform to meetings and activities also encourages a neat appearance, a sense of belonging, and good behavior.