

ORANGE COUNTY COUNCIL BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Scouting Programs and Impact—Building Tomorrow's Leaders Today!!

LEADERSHIP— Scouting's purpose is to prepare young people for a lifetime of leadership. Our nation relies on thoughtful, responsible leaders that Scouting develops.

ACHIEVEMENT — The Scouting experience includes learning valuable skills and achieving meaningful goals.

CHARACTER — Through its methods and programs, Scouting helps develop in youth the many qualities that guide good decision-making in life. Scouting's lessons last a lifetime built on the Scout Oath and Law.

SERVICE — Serving others and making our communities a better place is a key part of the Scouting experience.

OUTDOORS — Learning to appreciate our world and our place in it remains essential to the Scouting experience, which promotes active involvement in the enduring nature of the out-of-doors.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AND SUSTAINABILITY — Long before going green was a societal and corporate focus, Scouting was teaching the importance of environmental stewardship to youth across America. "Leave No Trace" training is an integral component of unit programming and outdoor adventures. Scouts promote sustainability through water conservation, solar energy, waste management and the care and preservation of our natural resources.

EDUCATION AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT — Studies on education have shown that Scouts do better in school and attain better career opportunities. Scouts who stay in the program beyond five years demonstrate good study habits and earn higher grades. They are far more likely to graduate high school and college and achieve better results with job placement. The rank advancement system and merit badge achievement program lead to further success in life and career growth.

LIFELONG BENEFITS OF SCOUTING

A recent study by Harris Interactive indicates that boys with at least five years of Scouting are more likely than boys who have never been in Scouts to:

- Learn the value of team work
- Discover what it's like to work with others
- Assume leadership roles
- Have higher self esteem
- Resist negative peer pressure
- Consider the needs of others first
- Graduate from college
- Earn higher annual household incomes
- Highly value relationships
- Enjoy strong lasting friendships

SCOUTING AND THE FIVE C'S OF POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT*

Scouting programs emphasize the development of leadership, character, citizenship, and fitness. To accomplish these goals, young people need the opportunity to stretch themselves in real-world settings that help them understand who they are and envision who they can become. Scouting programs provide crucial experiences that help young people clarify their values, their goals, and their vision for the future.

COMPETENCE: Scouts master skills by doing. Scouting allows young people to practice the skills they have developed and to gain new skills in a real-world setting.

CONFIDENCE: Because Scouting activities are challenging, they naturally lead to increased confidence. As youth persist in the face of challenging obstacles and overcome them, they learn to trust their ability to do hard things and to exceed their own expectations.

CONNECTIONS: Scouting programs foster teamwork by providing situation where youth must work together and support one another to overcome challenges. Additionally, the outdoor nature of the programs help youth develop a connection to and respect for nature and frequently provides them the opportunity to reflect upon their spiritual path.

CARING: As youth work together to overcome challenges, they come to depend on each other. They support and encourage one another. They meet and come to know others of different backgrounds. As a result, Scouting programs help develop respect, compassion and conflict resolution skills.

CHARACTER: The goal of all Scouting programs is to develop character. By helping youth connect, care, become self-confident and competent, we strengthen the foundations of character that enable them to become men and women who positively impact their families, their communities, our nation and the world.

*As defined through a Tufts University research project.



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