

FUN FOR THE FAMILY

Strengthening families is one of the purposes of Cub Scouting in the Boy Scouts of America (BSA). With this purpose in mind, Cub Scouting endorses family programs and activities that can strengthen families and build character. *Fun for the Family* is Cub Scouting's family activity program. It contains a series of activities and



requirements designed to help strengthen families and to develop good character skills among family members. These activities occur through adventure learning experiences.

WHY HAVE THIS PROGRAM?

Families are the basis of our society. In the family, children learn about love, values, and social interaction while they prepare for today's world. The family is vital to the future of our community and our nation. The BSA recognizes that parents and family have the responsibility to teach their children. *Fun for the Family* can be an additional, positive resource in helping families accomplish worthy goals of building and strengthening relationships.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Fun for the Family allows families to choose how they would like to participate in the program. A Cub Scouting family may choose to participate on its own, for example, or the pack may choose to introduce the program to families as part of a pack plan. Alternatively, participants may employ a combination of family and pack activities when using the program. Flexibility and choice are important to allow families to meet their needs and interests.

Fun for the Family is the primary resource for the program. Families may choose the requirements that are applicable to their own families and complete the activities at a pace that is sensible and applicable for them.

WHAT DOES IT INCLUDE?

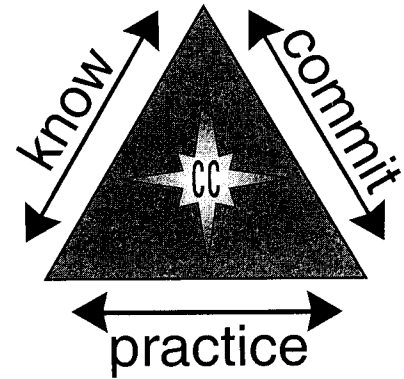
Fun for the Family is filled with various family activities that are organized into five categories to allow for a well-balanced approach to building character traits and strengthening family relationships.

The categories are:

- Shaping Your Family Identity
- Developing Personal Skills
- Building a Family Team
- Connecting With Your Community
- Facing Family Challenges

Each topic contains suggested activities that feature Character Connections™, which relate the activity to one or more of the 12 Core Values of Cub Scouting. These Character Connections are implemented throughout the program.

More information about Cub Scouting's Core Values and Character Connections may be found on page 7–9 under Cub Scout Character Development. Moreover, a “Values Table” that relates activities to the core values is on page 14.



As family members participate in the many adventures, they will connect family fun with important values that build character. These activities could include going on field trips, telling stories, doing arts and crafts projects, playing games, participating in family discussions, and/or making lists and charts.

Most of the requirements in *Fun for the Family* will be especially useful during family meetings or gatherings; however, parents will also find ways to incorporate them into daily life. Many ideas may be adapted for use during car rides, mealtimes, and those spare times when children look for something to do. Parents and guardians may use the ideas and activities to meet their own family's needs and interests. Ultimately, the activities are designed to help family members strengthen their relationships with each other by having fun and adventure through meaningful, learning activities.

CUB SCOUT CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

Since its origin, the Scouting program has been an educational experience concerned with values. In 1910, the first activities for Scouts were designed to build character, physical fitness, practical skills, and service. These elements were part of the original Cub Scout program and continue to be part of Cub Scouting today.

Character development should extend into every aspect of a boy's life. Character development should also extend into every aspect of Cub Scouting. Cub Scout leaders should strive to use Cub Scouting's 12 Core Values throughout all elements of the program—service projects, ceremonies, games, skits, songs, crafts, and all the other activities enjoyed at den and pack meetings.

CUB SCOUTING'S 12 CORE VALUES

Citizenship: Contributing service and showing responsibility to local, state, and national communities.

Compassion: Being **kind** and considerate, and showing concern for the well-being of others.

Cooperation: Being **helpful** and working together with others toward a common goal.

Courage: Being **brave** and doing what is right regardless of our fears, the difficulties, or the consequences.

Faith: Having inner strength and confidence based on our trust in God.

Health and Fitness: Being personally committed to keeping our minds and bodies **clean** and fit.

Honesty: Telling the truth and being **worthy of trust**.

Perseverance: Sticking with something and not giving up, even if it is difficult.

Positive Attitude: Being **cheerful** and setting our minds to look for and find the best in all situations.

Resourcefulness: Using human and other resources to their fullest.

Respect: Showing regard for the worth of something or someone.

Responsibility: Fulfilling our duty to God, country, other people, and ourselves.

12 CORE VALUES AND THE SCOUT LAW

Boy Scouts learn and strive to live by the Scout law: "A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent." Many of the Core Values of Cub Scouting relate directly to the Scout Law:

CORE VALUE	SCOUT LAW
Compassion	Kind
Cooperation	Helpful
Courage	Brave
Health and Fitness	Clean
Honesty	Trustworthy
Positive Attitude	Cheerful

Character can be defined as the collection of core values possessed by an individual that leads to moral commitment and action.

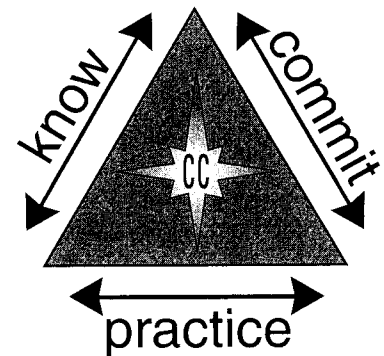
Character development should challenge Cub Scouts to experience Core Values in six general areas: God, world, country, community, family, and self.

Character is "values in action."

CHARACTER CONNECTIONS™

The goals of the Cub Scout leader are:

- To seek out and maximize the many opportunities to incorporate character development.
- To convince the young Cub Scout that character is important to the individual and to his family, community, country, world, and God.



Character development should not be viewed as something done occasionally as part of a separate program, or as part of only one area of life. In reality, character development is a part of everything a Cub Scout does. Character development lessons can be found in every aspect of the Cub Scouting experience.

When it comes to developing character, the complete person must be considered. Character development involves at least three critical areas: knowledge (thought), commitment (feelings), and practice (behavior). In Cub Scouting, addressing these three critical areas and relating them to values is referred to as **Character Connections**. Character Connections asks the Cub Scout to:

KNOW

Character development includes moral knowledge—both awareness and reasoning. For example, children must understand what honesty means; they also must be able to reason about and interpret each situation, and then decide how to apply the principles of honesty.

- What do I think or know about the Core Value?
- How does the context of this situation affect this Core Value?
- What are some historical, literary, or religious examples representing the Core Value?

COMMIT

Character development includes attention to moral motivation. Children must be committed to doing what they know is right. They must be able to understand the perspectives of others, to consider how others feel, and to develop an active moral conscience.

- Why is this Core Value important?
- What makes living out this Core Value difficult?
- What will it take to live out this Core Value?

PRACTICE

Character development includes the development of moral habits through guided practice. Children need opportunities to practice the social and emotional skills necessary for doing what is right but difficult, and to experience the Core Values in their lives.

- How can I act according to this Core Value?
- How do I live out this Core Value?
- How can I practice this value at school, at home, and with my friends?

To make Character Connections an integral part of Cub Scouting, the 12 Core Values are being incorporated throughout the boys' handbooks and advancement program. Program support for character development can be found in *Cub Scout Program Helps*, in the *Cub Scout Leader Book*, and at your monthly roundtable meetings.

Remember:

- Core Values are the basis of good character development.
- Character must be broadly defined to include thinking, feeling, and behavior.
- Core Values should be promoted throughout all phases of life.

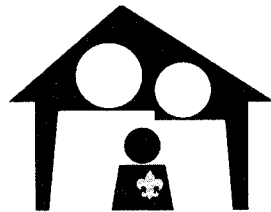
PACK COMMITTEE INVOLVEMENT

Most families learn about BSA's *Fun for the Family* through an orientation at a pack meeting. Packs can organize a family activity program that correlates with the monthly pack meetings and/or provide resources for families to complete activities on their own.

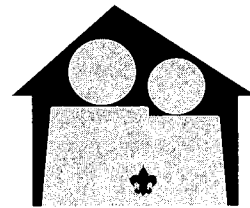
A pack committee may choose a family program chairperson to promote and organize the program for the pack.

This committee member's duties could include:

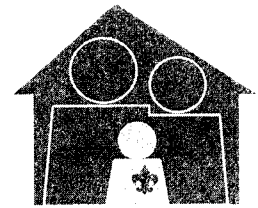
1. Becoming familiar with the program and serving as a resource.
2. Promoting the program within the pack.
3. Encouraging families to earn the Fun for the Family Award.
4. Conducting orientation meetings.
5. Assisting with pack activities using *Fun for the Family* that would help families complete requirements.
6. Recognizing families by presenting the Fun for the Family certificate, patches, and pins to family members at pack meetings.



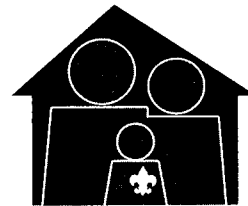
Blue and White



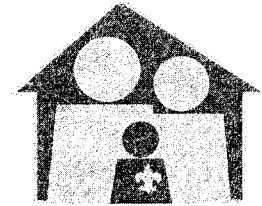
Black and Gray



Orange and Green



Black and Red



Blue and Yellow



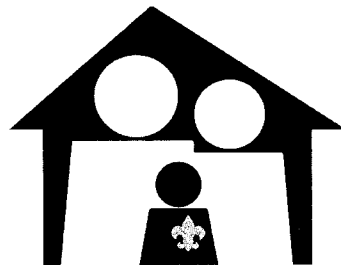
ACTIVITY AREAS

For a family to enjoy a balanced program of activities, the BSA has determined five activity areas so that family members may learn about their own family identity and heritage, develop skills and talents, experience unity and teamwork, connect with their neighborhoods and communities, and face family challenges and difficulties. As family members participate in these various areas, they may gain insight about each other and observe the differences they can make in their communities.

Note: Each category has several different requirements so that families may choose the activities that would be most applicable, useful, and fun for their situations.

SHAPING YOUR FAMILY IDENTITY

The family is the basic unit for nurturing physical, social, intellectual, emotional, spiritual, and ethical development of an individual. Family members should know which values are encouraged and practiced by the family. Knowing these values is essential if the nurturing is going to be healthy and adaptive. In achieving this objective, the first step in family development is shaping who the family is and learning what the family represents.

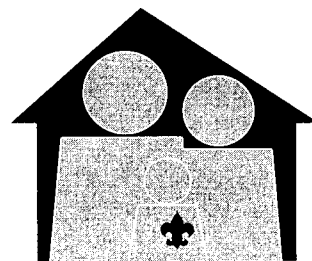


Blue and White
Patch 18094
Pin 14354

Examples of family activities in this category could include creating a family motto, exploring a family's heritage, and celebrating family milestones.

DEVELOPING PERSONAL SKILLS

A family is only as strong or successful as the people in it, so the second step in family development is to identify and strengthen the skills of its members. Of course, family members will have room for improvement in some areas; paying special attention and care to addressing these areas will encourage personal growth. Focusing on what one does well is a positive way to acknowledge what areas need work. Talents and skills can be showcased and practiced.

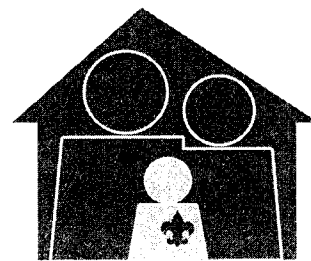


Black and Gray
Patch 18095
Pin 14355

Examples of family activities in this category could include having a talent show, practicing manners, and playing games.

BUILDING A FAMILY TEAM

The family should work together to achieve common goals and objectives. Members must learn, lead, follow, and contribute to the family welfare. This cooperation creates a sense of belonging and empowerment for members to participate in both challenges and rewards. The objectives are to learn respect for leaders and followers, to take responsibility for one's self and others, and to adopt appropriate values while rejecting inappropriate behaviors.



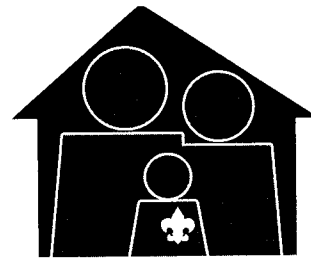
Orange and Green
Patch 18096
Pin 14356

Examples of family activities in this category could include planting a garden, having a read-a-thon, and planning a budget.

CONNECTING WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

Learning to share one's personal and family success with others is an affirming way to discover one's purpose in life. Therefore, putting the family's beliefs into actions that benefit others will solidify learned values. Activity in the community will teach humility, as well as pride, in helping others. Family members will learn that serving others can be rewarding, fun, and worthwhile.

Examples of family activities in this category could include adopting a fire hydrant, planning a neighborhood service project, and visiting a police station.

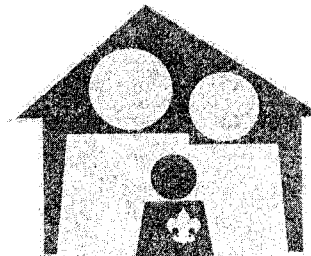


Black and Red
Patch 18097
Pin 14353

FACING FAMILY CHALLENGES

At one time or another, every family will face challenges. These trials may be minor or considerable, depending on the circumstances that surround the family. Individual and family strengths of character may be tested numerous times. How one learns to cope and solve problems will become the basis for facing future life challenges, and practice can occur with a supporting family. Experience is a wonderful teacher of what tools are needed, and how they can be used effectively in facing future challenges.

Examples of family activities in this category could include visiting a cemetery, making goodbye cards, and preparing frozen meals for other families.



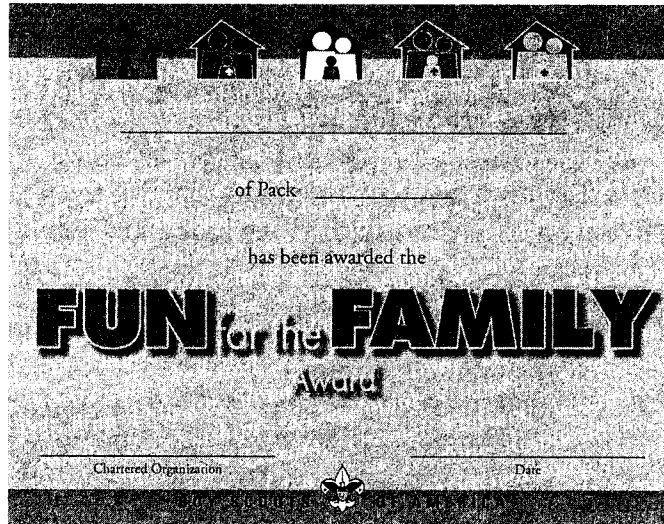
Blue and Yellow
Patch 18098
Pin 14352

EARNING THE FUN FOR THE FAMILY AWARD

To earn the Fun for the Family Award, family members must work together to complete two activities from each of the five categories, as outlined in *Fun for the Family!*

1. Shaping Your Family Identity
2. Developing Personal Skills
3. Building a Family Team
4. Connecting with Your Community
5. Facing Family Challenges

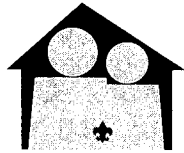
Upon completion of the award, the family may be presented the BSA Fun for the Family Award certificate (No. 34572), and each family member may be presented the BSA Fun for the Family Award patch or patches, according to the requirements that they have met.



After receiving the patch, family members may continue working on Fun for the Family activities to earn Fun for the Family pins to be worn on the patches.



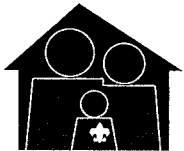
Blue and white pin—for completion of two additional activities from “Shaping Your Family Identity.”



Black and gray pin—for completion of two additional activities from “Developing Personal Skills.”



Orange and green pin—for completion of two additional activities from “Building a Family Team.”



Black and red pin—for completion of two additional activities from “Connecting with Your Community.”



Blue and yellow pin—for completion of two additional activities from “Facing Family Challenges.”

Families may earn as many pins as they like during their tenure in Cub Scouting. Ideally, the awards will be presented to the family at a pack meeting.

Note: As with all awards, the pack committee shall establish guidelines concerning the funding of this award in accordance with the pack budget and chartered organization.

REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITIES AND CORE VALUES

This is how the *Fun for the Family* activity requirements relate to the Cub Scouting Core Values. (Numbers refer to the five areas and letters refer to the individual activities in those areas.)

Citizenship	Compassion	Cooperation
Celebrate the Date 1B Career Choice 2A Clean-Up! 3C Community Service 4G Flag Day 4J Road Trip 4Q Memorial Day 5H Safety and Security 5P	Kindness Counts 1L Family Support 2E Secret Pal 3Q Care Center Program 4C Food Drive 4K Neighborhood Pixie 4N Tender Loving Care 5R Welcome Neighbors 5S	Bookworm 1A Holiday Tradition 1J Courtesy Capers 2B Family Campout 3D Story Creator 3R Team Spirit 3S Community Event 4F Fire Drill 5D
Courage	Faith	Health and Fitness
Family Ancestors 1C Family Reunion 1F Milestone Celebration 1N Talent Show 2Q Follow the Leader 3I Fire Hydrant Care 4I Pet Memories 5M Problem Solver 5O	Family Ancestors 1C Family Faith 1D Lights On 1M Special Strengths 2P Church Visit 3B Mission Possible 3O Tree Planting 4S Hopeful Lessons 5G	Family Values 1H Family Fitness 2C Keep It Clean! 2I Family Pot Luck 3H Good Sportsmanship 3D Bike Ride 4A Nutrition First! 5K
Honesty	Perseverance	Positive Attitude
Family Motto 1E Game Day 2F Guess Who? 2G Budget Bank 3A Church Help 4D Rules and Respect 4R Security Code 5Q	Family Ancestors 1C Treasure Hunt 1Q Practice Makes Perfect 2M Words! Words! Words! 2R Happy Hikers 3L Read-a-thon 3P Conservation Project 4H Obstacles! Obstacles! 5L	House Upon the Rock 1K Mealtime Manners 2J Music Melodies 2L Job Chart 3M Help My Neighbor 4M Family Journal 5C Moving On 5I
Resourcefulness	Respect	Responsibility
Heritage Party 1I Hobby Run 2H Skit Fun 2O Family Garden 3F Measure Up 3N Public Transport 4O Recycling Is Best 4P Family Emergency Plan 5B	Family Roots 1G Name Book 1O Skills Showcase 2N Farm Visit 3I Car Wash 4B Community Clean-up 4E Cemetery Discovery 5A Honor Book 5F Nature Honor 5J Physical Assistance 5N	Picture Perfect 1P Family Restaurant 2D Money Games 2K Family Crest 3E Family Pet 3G Garbage Weight 4L Frozen Feast 5E