

Sam Houston Area Council
2005 Cub Scout Leader Pow Wow – Texas Proud

Scholar (Mental Skills Group)



The Scholar Activity Badge experience can help to improve the Webelos' relationship with his school. It will help the Scout understand why an education is important. When presented with interest and enthusiasm from the leader, this badge will not seem like drudged up schoolwork! Help the boys to learn that there is more to school than just homework.

SUGGESTED PATROL ACTIVITIES

1. Have the boys make a list of the things they like about school. And another list of the things they don't like. Discuss them using the *Start, Stop, Continue* evaluation tool.
2. Learn about the history of education, how schools developed in America.
3. Invite someone to talk about careers in education.
4. Locate some old school books and compare to current books being used.
5. Tour the city library.
6. Invite someone who attended school when it was a "one room building and all ages were together" to talk to the boys about their experiences.
7. Encourage the boys to be a part of their school's safety patrol.
8. Visit a high school or college campus.
9. Discuss possible patrol service projects for the school.
10. Work on the Academic Belt Loops and Pins for Language, Mathematics and Chess.

START, STOP, CONTINUE

In school, at home, on the sports field or at Scout meetings, each of us needs to evaluate what is going on, so that our grades are good, our home life is happy, and we are meeting our team goals. An older method of evaluation was "Thorns and Roses" where you list things that you have gone well and things that you didn't like. Current BSA training thinks that this method can lead to the boys dwelling on the negative, and fails to take the next steps toward figuring out how to make your situation better.

What we recommend as an evaluation method is to use Start, Stop, Continue (S.S.C.) when the boys (or groups of adults) need to evaluate how an activity went, in their opinions. Two out of three of these (Start and Continue) focus on the positive, and even the ideas for what to Stop can empower the boys to make the decisions on what they shouldn't do, or don't want to do anymore.

1. *START*. What should we start doing that might be better? What other new activities should we try? What behavior might be better? What should we do next?
2. *STOP*. What activities or behaviors should we stop, so that we have more fun or so that we get more things done? What didn't work?
3. *CONTINUE*. What went pretty well, and we should do again next time? What did you like about what has been going on?

As the new BSA prescribed evaluation tool, leaders can use Start, Stop, Continue evaluations after every activity so that the boys can empower themselves to keep improving. Try it in Pack Committee meetings each month too. Start, Stop, Continue is a positive way to evaluate the activities of the Pack, so that feelings are less likely to be hurt when changes are proposed.



Sam Houston Area Council
2005 Cub Scout Leader Pow Wow – Texas Proud

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Teach the boys how to count to ten in several languages:

	<u>German</u>	<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Japanese</u>	<u>Swahili</u>	<u>Chinese</u>	<u>Greek</u>
1.	eins	uno	ichi	moja	yi	ena
2.	zwei	dos	ni	mbili	er	dio
3.	drei	tres	san	tatu	san	tria
4.	fier	quatro	shi	nne	si	tessera
5.	fünf	cinco	go	tano	wu	pente
6.	sechs	seis	roku	sita	liu	exi
7.	sieben	siete	nana	saba	qi	epta
8.	acht	ocho	hachi	nane	ba	okto
9.	neun	nueve	kyuu	tisa	jiu	ennea
10.	zehn	diez	jyuu	kumi	shi	deka

PATROL CHESS TOURNAMENT

As part of the Chess belt loop and pin. At one meeting have an expert cover over how a chess game is played, and some of the strategies and opening moves. Announce that there will be a chess tournament. At a subsequent meeting hold a timed chess tournament round-robin, so that everyone is always playing someone. Each game has a time limit of 15 minutes, and the winner of each game is either whoever takes the most pieces in that time limit or who gets a checkmate.

BACK TO THE FUTURE OF SCHOOLING

Perhaps for the February “Cubs in the Future” Pack Meeting

You will need lots of old magazines, construction paper, scissors, glue markers and pencils.

The world is changing rapidly, thanks to computers and new technologies. Have the boys discuss what they think school will be like in 30 years (2036). Will the students all be learning from computers?

Will they interact with their teachers from a TV hook-up at home?

Will they travel to Mars for mathematics and to Saturn for science?

Will someone have invented a “smart pill” or brain implant for each subject?

In the future, will we do away with some of the subjects that are taught now? Which ones?

Can they imagine any new subjects that might be taught instead? Which ones?



After the discussion, divide the boys into two or three project groups to make posters of their view of education in the future.

Make costumes for the “Cubs in the Future” Pack meeting, using lots of aluminum foil (edges of foil can be very sharp!):

- Aluminum foil radiation hats, to keep cell phones from frying their brain.
- Computers, communicators, and displays on your sleeve.
- Keyboard pants.