**Aims and Methods**

The mission of Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetime by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

**The Aims of Scouting are**

Character, Citizenship, Personal Fitness and Leadership.

**Methods of Scouting Living the Ideals**

Cub Scouting’s values are embedded in the Scout Oath, the 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 Scouts and the leaders who guide them.

**Belonging to a Den**

The den—a group of six to eight children who are in the same grade and are the same gender—is the place 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.

**Advancement**

Recognition is important to everyone. The advancement plan provides fun for the Scouts, gives them a sense of personal achievement as they earn badges, and strengthens family understanding as adult family members and their den leader work with them on advancement projects.

**Family Involvement**

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

**Activities**

Cub Scouts participate in a huge array of activities, including games, projects, skits, stunts, songs, outdoor activities, trips, and service projects. Besides being fun, these activities offer opportunities for growth, achievement, and family involvement.

**Serving the Neighborhood**

Cub Scouting focuses on the home and neighborhood. It helps Scouts strengthen connections to their local communities, which in turn supports their growth and development.

**Uniform**

Cub Scout uniforms serve a dual purpose, demonstrating that a Scout is part of a team and showing individual achievement (Scouts wear the badges they’ve earned). Wearing the uniform to meetings and activities also encourages a neat appearance, and good behavior.

**What are the Scout Oath and Scout Law?**

SCOUT OATH

On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

SCOUT LAW

The Scout Law has 12 points. Each is a goal for every Scout. A Scout tries to live up to the Law every day. It is not always easy to do, but a Scout always tries.

**A SCOUT IS:**

**TRUSTWORTHY.** Tell the truth and keep promises. People can depend on you.

**LOYAL.** Show that you care about your family, friends, Scout leaders, school, and country.

**HELPFUL.** Volunteer to help others without expecting a reward.

**FRIENDLY.** Be a friend to everyone, even people who are very different from you.

**COURTEOUS.** Be polite to everyone and always use good manners.

**KIND.** Treat others as you want to be treated. Never harm or kill any living thing without good reason.

**OBEDIENT.** Follow the rules of your family, school, and pack. Obey the laws of your community and country.

**CHEERFUL.** Look for the bright side of life. Cheerfully do tasks that come your way. Try to help others be happy.

**THRIFTY.** Work to pay your own way. Try not to be wasteful. Use time, food, supplies, and natural resources wisely.

**BRAVE.** Face difficult situations even when you feel afraid. Do what you think is right despite what others might be doing or saying.

**CLEAN.** Keep your body and mind fit. Help keep your home and community clean.

**REVERENT.** Be reverent toward God. Be faithful in your religious duties. Respect the beliefs of others.