

## The Scouting Difference

Boys today have a wide variety of options for spending their time. Many of them might have a “to-do” list that looks something like this:



Do the activities and organizations in which boys choose to participate have any real influence on the types of people they become in the future? We'll tell you about one organization that does!

## Scouts for Today

With more than four million youth members, the Boy Scouts of America is one of America's most popular youth organizations. Boys join Scouting for one primary reason – to have fun!

A key to Scouting's ongoing success is in the fact that the movement recognizes that a boy's perception of what is fun is constantly changing. In response, the Scouting program has expanded through the years to continuously offer activities and programs that challenge boys both physically and intellectually.

For Scouts today, the Scouting difference is that these boys get the opportunity to experience and explore life to its fullest. Perhaps more importantly, while boys have great experiences in Scouting, they gain much more than fun.

Scouts learn lessons about life, and the value of being a person of character and integrity. These lessons come through spending significant time and sharing experiences with families, Scout leaders, and fellow Scouts.

Boys in Scouting today are keenly aware of the difference Scouting makes in their lives.\*

### Scouting Teaches Me To

### Percentage of Today's Scouts Who Agree

- |                                       |     |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| • Take better care of the environment | 89% |
| • Get along with others               | 88% |
| • Always give your best effort        | 87% |
| • Have confidence in yourself         | 87% |
| • Set goals for yourself              | 87% |
| • Care for other people               | 86% |
| • Treat others with respect           | 86% |

\**The Values of Men and Boys in America*, a study conducted by Louis Harris & Associates for the Boy Scouts of America, May, 1995

## Adults In The Future

As with any youth, what a boy who participates in Scouting decides to do with his life may vary significantly from boy to boy. While a relatively high proportion of Scouts obtain a college education, the career paths they choose are diverse. *Regardless of the paths they choose, what is really important is the type of men they become.* This is where the Scouting difference becomes evident.

When asked, adult men who were Scouts as boys indicate that being in Scouting taught them many positive values.\*

Scouting Has Influenced Me To	Percentage of Former Scouts Who Agree
• Respect the elderly	84%
• Be a good team player	83%
• Respect the life and property of others	83%
• Always be honest	82%
• Have confidence in your abilities	80%
• Take better care of the environment	80%
• Treat coworkers with respect	78%

\**The Values of Men and Boys in America*, a study conducted by Louis Harris & Associates for the Boy Scouts of America, May, 1995

## Leaders for Life

In Scouting, every boy is given the challenge and responsibility of accepting a leadership role.

Men who were Scouts as boys believe that their Scouting experience prepared them well for leadership. In fact, approximately 75% of former Scouts agree with the statement,

**“There have been real-life situations where having been a Scout helped me to be a better leader.”**

Also, among men who were Scouts as boys for five or more years, 66% currently have a position in which they are responsible for managing other people. This compares to only 44% of men who were never in Scouting.

Specific areas in which adult men indicate that Scouting equipped them to become leaders include the following:\*

• Ability to work with others	75%
• Self-confidence in my work	70%
• Ability to accomplish tasks	66%

\**The Values of Men and Boys in America*, a study conducted by Louis Harris & Associates for the Boy Scouts of America, May, 1995

Among men listed in *Who's Who of America*, 70% were in Scouting as boys. These men attribute Scouting with influencing them to:\*

• Always be honest	77%
• Be a good team player	76%
• Have confidence in your abilities	71%
• Treat coworkers with respect	70%

\**The Values of Men and Boys in America*, a study conducted by Louis Harris & Associates for the Boy Scouts of America, May, 1995

When you stop to think about it, Scouting is unlike any other youth program. Scouting is different; it offers much more than team sports or school activities.

While many programs help boys develop specific physical skills, Scouting goes beyond the basics and fosters the development of the whole person...mentally, physically, and morally.

The Scouting difference is simple yet complex. The program is about what a boy experiences today that will prepare him to become a man of character.

Scouting offers boys the opportunity to participate in the fun and challenging activities they need while simultaneously instilling the values that will help launch them on a successful course for life.

## Scouting for Life!