

CONDUCTING SAFETY MOMENTS IN THE PACK

Scouts and parents expect all Scouting America activities to be conducted safely. Safety is at the heart of Scouting and it is leaders responsibility to model and encourage safe practices.

SAFE Program

Leaders are expected by Scouting America to ensure the safety of participants by using the 4 points of SAFE when delivering the Scouting Program.

Supervision

— youth are supervised by qualified and trustworthy adults who set the example for safety.

Assessment

--activities are assessed for risks during planning. Leaders have reviewed applicable program guidance or standards and verified the activity is not prohibited. Risk avoidance is incorporated into the activity.

Fitness and Skill-

Participants Annual Health and Medical records are reviewed and leaders have confirmed that prerequisite fitness and skill levels exist for participation to take part safely.

Equipment and Environment

Safe and appropriately sized equipment, courses, camps, campsites, trails or playing fields are used properly. Leaders periodically check gear use and the environment for changing conditions that could affect safety.

Safety moments are opportunities to prepare for an activity, review safety measures and report incidents correctly. They underscore Scouting's commitment to identifying and preventing or mitigating hazards and risks in all activities.

Safety moments

When: before any activity –(especially high risk ones-shooting, water)

How long should safety moment be? - 2 minutes concise

Content: fact based, age appropriate, limited to the activity One topic
Make it relevant -topic that matches upcoming Pack activity or seasonal concerns like winter sports, or winter cold – summer heat

Key Tool: Safe checklist

Purpose: reinforce safety practices

- engage Scouts
- create awareness
- mitigate risks

Audience relevant– tailored to the group you are speaking to

Structure- opening statement, core information, brief wrap up, follow up
non-specific – avoid references to any one known

WHO??

At the Cub level, adults should be leading Safety moments.

At the Troop level new position Instructor for Troop Safety- part of their responsibility is to prepare a safety moment for the start of each troop meeting.

For leaders:

Follow guide to Safe Scouting

Use SAFE checklist

Review health records

Be prepared – proper training on equipment, ensure adult to youth ratios

Report incidents – use proper process for reporting

What kinds of topics could be covered?

Safety moments are per-activity discussions on topics from buddy system, food allergies (before picnic or food event), weather safety (buddy system, sun safety, bug) , medical issues, specific activity risks like campfires, hiking, cooking, pinewood derby and tool and paint use; ensuring preparedness for all, activities that foster a culture of safety,

To reinforce key safety principals. Can be as simple as where are the fire extinguishers, AED, where are the exits, where first aid kit.

Topics:

Weather (snow, cold)

healthy habits

activity specific = Pinewood Derby, fundraising, volunteer job -Scouting for food- water bottle rockets

something that matches up with upcoming pack activity

youth protection

safe environment – building you meet at – running, hiding, pick up and drop off – parents must bring Scouts in and come in to pick up proper food storage

health concerns – food allergies, health concerns(asthma, wheel chair accessibility,etc)

Safety moments create a safe environment where everyone is aware of potential risks and know how to respond to them.

Want to promote culture of safety.

Cub Scouting integrates safety through specific adventure requirements.

Lion -Fun on the Run Tiger- Safe and Smart ; Tiger Bites Wolf- Running with the Pack

Bear Strong

Webelos= My safety, Stronger Faster Arrow of Light – Scouting adventure

Wolf – Personal Fitness /Running with the Pack

-use safe checklist

-all families with Guide to Safe Scouting

-be aware local/sate regulations that may supersede Scouting

-find any specific safety items that relates to requirements for advancement

-Before start adventure:

review food allergies safety moment – tasting foods

review each Cub Scout Health and Medical form especially for food allergies or exercise restrictions

ask if anyone has any religious or cultural

does anyone carry epi pen

Keep food safe guidelines

<https://www.scouting.org/health> -and- safety

New safety moments are constantly being updated and added.