Adventure Club Program

Executive Summary

The Adventure Club is a dynamic, youth-focused program designed to engage junior high and high school students in outdoor, leadership, and experiential learning activities. Developed under Learning for Life/Exploring, the program removes traditional barriers such as uniforms and advancement, offering a flexible and inclusive alternative to Scouting.

Program Rationale

Many youth are interested in outdoor adventure and leadership development but may be hesitant to join traditional Scouting programs due to uniforms, advancement structures, or perceived formality. Adventure Club bridges this gap by providing a welcoming, engaging, and educational experience that mirrors the best of Scouting without its formalities.

Target Audience

Adventure Club is designed for youth in grades 6–12, with Adventure Club Clubs serving younger youth and Adventure Club Posts serving youth ages 14–20. The program is ideal for schools, community centers, and councils seeking to expand youth engagement.

Program Structure

Adventure Club operates through a track-based curriculum, allowing flexibility for weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly meetings. Each track includes four or five sessions focused on outdoor skills, leadership, STEM, and community service. Clubs and Posts are led by screened adult facilitators and supported by Learning for Life.

Curriculum Overview

The curriculum includes six core tracks: Outdoor Skills & Survival, Leadership & Teamwork, Nature & Conservation, Adventure Sports, Citizenship & Community, and STEM in the Outdoors. Each session includes objectives, materials, activities, reflection questions, and optional outings or service projects.

Implementation Model

Councils and schools partner with Learning for Life to launch Adventure Clubs. Facilitators receive training and resources, including lesson plans, safety guidelines, and support materials. Clubs and Posts meet regularly and participate in planning meetings, open houses, and evaluations.

Benefits

- Engages youth who may not join traditional Scouting
- Promotes leadership, teamwork, and outdoor skills
- Offers flexible, inclusive programming
- Strengthens school and community partnerships
- Provides a safe and structured environment for growth

Test Program Details

The Adventure Club test program invites select councils to participate in testing and refining the curriculum and implementation model. Councils agree to use materials provided or similar programs following the safety guidelines as established by Scouting America, host regular meetings, collect fees, and participate in evaluations. A Memorandum of Understanding outlines roles and responsibilities.

Call to Action

We invite councils, schools, and community partners to join us in launching Adventure Club. Together, we can create meaningful experiences that inspire youth to explore, lead, and grow. Contact Ryan Moon at ryan.moon@scouting.org or 702 449-8342 to learn more and become a test council.