

## 11 Year Old Scout Leader Training

- Purpose
  - Have a clear understanding of why your program exists
  - Understand what your program goals are
  - Understand what your personal goals are
  - Understand your standards and expectations
  - Understand why you keep coming to meetings and putting in the effort
    - It needs to be more than just “it’s my calling”
- Planning
  - Meeting plan
    - Plan for each meeting regardless of topics being covered.
  - Meeting topics plan
    - Plan of topics to be covered in each meeting
  - Activity plan
    - Plan of monthly, non-meeting activities to be conducted
  - Six month plan
    - Plan for meetings and activities six months in advance
  - Flexibility
    - Be prepared to change what you’re covering in a particular meeting to meet the needs of the Scouts that are there rather than the ones that aren’t

**Pro-tip: As you develop your plan, keep track of what did and didn’t work. Once you get your plan dialed in everything becomes “rinse and repeat.”**

- Preparation
  - Training
    - Basic leader training
    - Supplementary leader training
    - Roundtables
    - BSA leader handbooks
    - BSA program guides
    - Scouting magazine
    - Web resources
      - <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Scouts-LDS/>
      - <http://meritbadge.org>
      - <http://11yearoldscoutleader.blogspot.com/>
  - Teaching materials
    - Quizzes
    - Handouts
    - Visual aids
    - Practice equipment
  - Personal study
    - Familiarize yourself with the areas covered by your program
    - Have a good understanding of the requirements that must be met
    - Learn enough to teach the bulk of the material
      - Start with areas in which you already have an interest

- Teaching
  - Use the EDGE method
    - Explain
    - Demonstrate
    - Guide
    - Enable
  - Use others
    - Assistant leaders
    - Parents
    - Bishop
    - Ward members
    - Older scouts
  - Get on your feet
    - Games
    - Drills
  - Minimize lecturing
  - Ask questions
- Tracking
  - Activity roster
    - What did we accomplish
    - When did we do it
    - Who was there
  - Individual progress
    - A record of when each scout completed each rank requirement.
      - The official record is the Scout's handbook, but don't let that be the only record.

**Pro-tip: Keep a copy of the progress records with you at meetings so that you can easily alter your meeting plan for the Scouts in attendance.**

- Activities
  - Day activities
    - One day activities that serve a purpose (meet a rank and/or merit badge requirement)
      - Service projects
      - Hikes
      - Museums
      - Tours
      - Merit badge college
      - Scout days
    - Keep the cost down. Remember, all costs are to be covered by the Primary budget, not by families.
  - Campouts
    - One night campouts – typically Friday night to Saturday
    - Maximum of three per year

**Pro-tip: Do the same three campouts every year and you won't constantly be in a "figuring it out" mode.**

- Equipment
    - Patrol camping equipment
      - Who owns it? Ward? Brother Suchandsuch?
      - Durable
      - Reliable
      - Simple
        - Simple to put up
        - Simple to take down
        - Simple to put away
      - Organized
    - Personal camping gear
      - Easy to manage
  - Keeps Scouts busy
    - Have a plan
    - Plan to minimize idle time
  - Utilize dads
    - Have each dad supervise his son in cooking and cleaning tasks
- Rewarding
  - Attendance
  - Participation
  - Achievement
    - Courts of Honor
      - Make them worthwhile and special.
  - Ongoing praise – MOST IMPORTANT