

HOW TO CONDUCT A BOY TALK

(Please coordinate your schools Boy Talk through your district's professional staff. The professional staff is available to take the lead and conduct your school's boy talk even if your pack's coordinator or other unit leadership is unable to assist.)

1. Preparation

- a. Contact the school well in advance to schedule the presentation. Confirm school night date, time, and contact point for the school night.
- b. Confirm the presentation with letter or phone call.
- c. Order flyers from council service center.
- d. Prepare flyers for distribution to teachers (stacks of 20)
- e. Practice your presentation.
- f. Secure any necessary props.

2. Gathering Time

- a. Dress in full uniform.
- b. Arrive 15 minutes early to ensure the school is ready for you and/or reassure them that you are ready.
- c. Avoid topics that are sensitive issues with schools (shooting BB Guns).

3. Types of Presentations

- a. All-boy Assembly for 1st-3rd Graders and 4th and 5th Graders (Separate groups). Keep it under 5 minutes each. Be sure you can be heard.
- b. Room to Room. This type of presentation requires a condensed 3-5 minute talk for each classroom.
- c. Lunch-time. Many schools will not let you take education time away from the boys, but if you ask to talk to boys at lunch you may get less resistance.
- d. Recess. Harder because kids are not in one place, but not impossible. Secret is to have a draw to you. For example, set up a model campsite, shoot off water bottle rockets, etc.

4. How to Make the Presentation

- a. At first be stern, disciplined, and well-mannered.
- b. Then gradually become cheerful, enthusiastic, and silly,
- c. Remember that you are talking to little children, not adults.
- d. Keep it short.
- e. Try to get the boys to participate in your presentation.

5. The Presentation

- a. Ask school moderator not to introduce you, as you will take care of that. Merely have them quiet the group down and introduce you as someone who has something important to say.
- b. Ask if anyone knows what type of uniform you are wearing. You should get a variety of responses: police officer, park ranger, soldier, Boy Scout.
- c. Introduce yourself and tell them you are indeed a Cub Scout leader and that you are there to talk to them about becoming a Cub Scout.
- d. Ask students to raise their hands as you rattle off a variety of fun activities that Cub Scouts get to do:
 - i. Who likes to go Camping?
 - ii. Who likes to learn about Nature; animals, birds, trees, go on nature hikes...?
 - iii. Who would like to learn how to shoot a bow and arrow?
 - iv. (Showing a finished and unfinished pinewood derby car) Who would like to build a car like this out of a block of wood like this and race it against your classmates?

- v. Who likes to go on field trips to places like a police department, fire department, or zoo?
- vi. Who likes to go fishing?
- e. “Those are all things you get to do in Cub Scouting? Who thinks that sounds like fun? I would like to invite you and your parents to a special meeting (time, date, location).
- f. Have some sort of memorable exit. A quick magic trick works well.
- g. Restate time, date, location and tell them your teacher will hand them a flyer and to take that home to show their parents.

6. Thank teacher, principal, and school secretary on the way out.