

Successful Webelos/Boy Scout Transition

Ten Points

- Here are ten points for a Scoutmaster to follow for successful Webelos/Boy Scout transition. I know they work, or at least they worked for me, because we were able to average 90-100% transition of Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts and thereby, build a troop from 7 to 65 boys over a period of 5 years.-
Daryl Foelske, "Retired Scoutmaster"

1. Know your Scouts

- Get to know the Cub Scouts by going to their Pack Meetings and Activities.
- While there talk to them and learn their names, even the younger boys.

And Have the Scouts know you!

- Attend some of their Den Meetings and Sit down at their level and talk to them.
- Tell them about you and how the troop operates.
- Talk to them about Patrol organization and get the excited about Boy Scouts!

Remember: You Need them and they need you (but they don't know it yet)

- A troop cannot survive without Cub Scouts crossing over each year.
- You need them, so don't be afraid to tell them that.
- Young Cub Scouts like to feel needed.
- And, they need Scouting, and we need to make sure they do not miss that once in a lifetime opportunity!

Know the Parents and Make sure they know you.

- While attending various Cub Scout events get to know their parents and they will get to know you.
- Parents want their children to be part of a "Successful Troop" with someone they know.
- AND ANOTHER BENEFIT, they may just decide to help you by becoming a leader

Have a Plan

- When you put together your annual calendar, include a plan for Webelos Transition.
- Include visits to the pack/den.
- Campouts with them included.
- Set dates so that nothing is overlooked. Plan it so it happens.

Tell them who runs the Troop

- "Boy Run" troop that uses the patrol method.
- Cub Scouts get excited learning how THEY will elect their patrol leader and how THEY will decide campout meals.
- All this with the help of older Scouts; telling them this will help them feel ready for Boy Scouts.

Get Parents Involved

- Make sure you ask.
- Because they know you, they will be more willing to get involved.

Prepare your Troop for the Cub Scouts

- Successful transition is getting them to join and also helping them make First Class in the first year.
- Have older scouts be troop guides to work with the younger scouts.
- Assign an Assistant Scoutmaster whose primary responsibility is working with troop guides who work with new scouts.

Don't Skip on Scoutmaster Conference, especially the first one.

- You got to know the Cub Scouts during their Cub Scout years, don't stop now.
- Take time to talk to them and listen to what they have to say.
- This will help keep them in Scouting.

Remember the First Point

- KNOW YOUR SCOUTS!
- The most important point needs repeating!
