

WEEKLY PROGRAM



This week is all about our Units embracing the opportunity to come together, to enjoy outdoor Scouting and hang out with friends we haven't seen for so long. Your Cub Scouts will be full of excitement and energy to see their friends, and be in the outdoors, but, even more so, participating in Scouting without looking at a screen.

You can undertake face-to-face outdoor Scouting as a whole Section but split into Patrols or small groups.

However before undertaking any outdoor activities please visit the latest Scouts Victoria Covid-19 update at <https://scoutsvictoria.com.au/covid-19-lockdown-faq/> to ensure our Scouting is safe for all.

Our program this week isn't overly laden with activities but it will require some preparation and some flexibility in the delivery of their program. Try to avoid structuring a meeting that dampens their enthusiasm and excitement. Encourage the Cub Scouts to suggest activities they would like to do on this, their first night back.

The Cub Scouts will likely want to play their favorite games so be prepared and bring along whatever equipment might be needed for the game. The game might require balls, hoops, cones, or even bean bags. Even bring along equipment for a game you might suggest.

Such equipment should be cleaned before and after use. And between uses, if you have multiple Patrols operating separately but nearby, and taking turns to use this equipment.

By this stage the Cub Scouts may have eagerly shouted out a dozen different games and activities and your role will be to guide the Unit Council in deciding that night's program.

A steam off game that expends all that excitement and energy is the best starting point. Remember, the golden rule of any steam-off game is no eliminations.

Any Tiggy-type game is ideal, as long as it is just within the Patrol. Outdoors, under 18s can play contact games. (But no group hugs or other unnecessary contact.)

Follow-up with a game that is not as active but still enjoyable. Perhaps a circle game or a relay type game. A game with an abundance of fun and laughter.

At this point the Unit Council will have a couple of activities still to run however check-in with the Unit Council to discuss the time remaining in the night versus the activities on their program.

As they head towards the last 15 minutes of their night the Unit Council might want to consider a quiet period where the Cub Scouts can sit in small groups and just chat. Maybe five or ten minutes will be just right. Don't provide parameters or topics, allow the Cub Scouts to work that out for themselves.

And before closing, what an ideal time for a reflection. Visit Australian Scouting's Internal Compass resource at <https://scoutsvictoria.com.au/media/3483/internal-compass-cub-scouts.pdf> for discussion suggestions around Being Thankful or Stopping for Reflection. Two of the four points of our Internal Compass.

Encourage those Cub Scouts that want to, say a few words on what they are thankful for and consider starting with a Leader to provide their reflection. Make sure you include your Leaders in this reflection as we have all been on this journey.

Finally, finish your night on a positive note. Have your Cub Scouts close their eyes whilst you describe in colourful detail the weeks ahead where the Unit will participate in a program that is adventurous, fun, challenging and inclusive. Paint a picture that will leave the Cub Scouts with that desire to come back next week for more Scouting.

Good luck!

