



**A**nother particularly strong benefit of Cub Scouting is that more than half of pack meetings include activities involving boys of different ethnic backgrounds. And, since most boys (60 percent) are in uniform at meetings, boys gain a sense of being part of a team, without the socioeconomic barriers that might otherwise be expressed through attire.

Young boys grow up fast. Give your son a valuable gift by encouraging him to join Cub Scouting today. The time you invest in him today will make a difference in the person he becomes tomorrow. Call your local Boy Scouts of America council today. It is listed

in the white pages of the phone book. Or go to the BSA national Web site at [www.scouting.org](http://www.scouting.org).



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## Cub Scouting... Time Well Spent



Thanks Mom!  
I had so much  
fun Saturday. I  
learned a lot. Ya  
the greatest!  
Love,



Every parent understands the value of spending personal time with his or her children. Yet in our demanding, fast-paced society, we often find ourselves looking back at missed opportunities. More than any other youth program available today, Cub Scouting supports parent and son relationships in ways that result in memories of time well spent together.

The Cub Scout program is uniquely designed to meet the needs of young boys and their parents.

Cub Scouting meets these needs through offering fun and challenging experiences that boys and parents do together.

Such experiences range from learning how to cook, swim, properly care for animals, or use hand tools to complete small projects. In a recent study by **Louis Harris & Associates** of New York, at least 90 percent of parents mention that because of Cub Scouting, they share time with their sons by

<b>Working on projects together</b>	<b>95%</b>
<b>Going places together</b>	<b>91%</b>
<b>Talking together</b>	<b>90%</b>

These experiences are truly *time well spent*. If such interactions are not made priorities, valuable avenues



for a parent to demonstrate love and commitment are lost. A father says, "Scouting gives my son and me a lot of time to talk and share stories about my childhood." Young boys recognize that the priorities of parents are expressed in how parents spend their time.

Perhaps as important, Cub Scouts learn skills in an environment that includes other boys their age. The boys work together, play together, challenge one another, and encourage one

another. Parents indicate that social skills their boys learn through Cub Scouting include

<b>How to get along with others</b>	<b>96%</b>
<b>How to respect others' feelings</b>	<b>95%</b>
<b>How to treat others</b>	<b>95%</b>

Benefits like these cause one Cub Scout mother to summarize Cub Scouting this way: "Scouting helps build self-esteem. It teaches boys about community."

While every parent wants his or her son to have fun experiences in their childhood, fun alone is not enough. Young boys need safe environments and activities that promote strong values and character.



These are the elements that families strive to provide and that Cub Scouting supports.

When Cub Scout parents identify what they want from Scouting and what their boys receive, the top five answers include

	<b>Want From Scouting</b>	<b>Receive From Scouting</b>
<b>Have fun</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>97%</b>
<b>Develop new skills</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>96%</b>
<b>Learn to respect others</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>95%</b>
<b>Be in a friendly/safe environment</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>98%</b>
<b>Learn moral/ethical values</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>95%</b>

Source: A Louis Harris & Associates research study titled *A Year in the Life of a Cub Scout . . . Boy Scout . . . Venturer*, 1998