



Planning Safe Activities

As unit leaders it is important to understand that safety is your responsibility. Some traditional activities in the past may need to be modified or eliminated in order to better protect our youth.

In planning your activity one of the first questions that should be examined is; is this activity age appropriate? The determining factor as to whether an activity is age appropriate deals with the ability of the youth to do the activity without incurring the risk of injury. For example shotgun shooting is not age appropriate for Cub Scouts. You can refer to the BSA's [Guide to Safe Scouting](#) for a listing of age appropriate activities.

A valuable tool in planning safe activities is the [tour plan](#). As you go through the exercise of completing the tour plan you are reminded of important steps in the planning process that will increase the level of safety and success of your activity.

Many activities that youth participate in require the supervision of trained and certified leaders. Due to potential risk, activities in shooting sports, climbing, or many aquatics activities can only be carried out if arrangements are made for the required certified supervision.

Our council website has a safety page that contains a number of resources that will assist you in safely planning your activity. Go to www.saltlakescouts.org then click on the orange "Safety is Your Responsibility" icon. There you will find a link to the Guide to Safe Scouting, as well as safety spotlight articles on climbing, shooting, aquatics, transportation safety, and many others. You will also find an event safety checklist that will help you recognize actions that you can take to identify risks and then minimize them.

Become familiar with the safety rules; have the courage to say no when necessary and remember, "safety is your responsibility."



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