

3 Ways Scouting Helped Us Parent our Children

By Robin Neff Smith (02/08/2018)

How can I help you today?

By sharing with you 3 ways scouting helped us parent our children.

Being in the parenting arena for twenty years and homeschooling our children for fifteen years,
I have heard the great, the good, the bad, and the ugly about scouting.

Today I want to focus on the great,
because BSA not only helped us parent our son but also helped me homeschool our children.

Please note: the greatness of scouting depends on the leadership of the packs/troops.
We “shopped around” before finding the perfect troop for our son.

Since scouting is more than setting up tents and building fires,



today I want to share 3 ways scouting helped us parent our son.

One Way Scouting Helped Us Parent our Son

We wanted our children to leave the nest knowing who they are and whose they belong. We wanted them to know they had a unique place in our family and in the world. We wanted them to recognize they have a duty to live up to the gifts God has given them and they are to live with purpose and passion taking care of themselves and serving others.

Learning, practicing, and living up to the Scout Oath is helping our son achieve his potential.

Scout Oath:

*On my honor, I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country,
and obey the scout law;
to help other people at all times;
to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.*

Another Way Scouting Helped Us Parent our Son

I wanted our son to grow into a man of character. (We spent a lot of time on character training in our homeschooling, but that's a post for another day.) Reciting, Discussing, and Practicing **the Scout Law** every week helped our son become a scout (and a young man) who is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.

The positive influence of great scout men who dedicate their time and energy to spend with boys is immeasurable. Just one example of this...

While at a campout, one of our son's leaders challenged the scouts to only date girls who possess the traits of the scout law. What a thought! What a life lesson!

One More Way Scouting Helped Us Parent our Son

My husband and I talked a lot about raising independent adults (not raising kids). We wanted them to leave home capable in taking care of themselves, confident that they could do so, and courageous enough to live out their dreams.

Scouting helped us teach our son many life skills. He left home and headed to college knowing how:

- to be a friend,
- to help others (**Scout slogan**: Do a good turn daily.)
- to work as a team,
- to be a servant leader,
- to speak in front of a group,
- to be prepared for anything (the **Scout motto**)
- to prepare meals from a grocery list to washing dishes
- to work hard and to play harder.

That's just 3 Ways Scouting Helped Us Parent our Children

I could go on and on, but you probably wouldn't keep reading.

In a later post, I'll share how scouting helped me homeschool our children.

If you're looking for an activity that will benefit your son and help you as a parent, check out [Boy Scouts of America](#) because...

The Scout Oath, Law, Slogan, and Motto are more than words when these words are put into action.

Scouting provided our son a place to act out great words and principles.

Without participating in scouting, our son would not be the same great young man he is today.

Original Post:

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