

Boy Scout Advancement | 11-Year-Old Scout 12-Month Advancement Plan

(September 2012)

One of the challenges facing most Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters in charge of the 11-year-old Scouts is to help each boy in the patrol advance from Scout to First Class within the first year. While the requirements are relatively straightforward, it seems attacking this challenge concurrently is the best strategy.

This plan is developed from a purely observational perspective. I was released shortly after completing my Wood Badge course and writing my ticket to create a 12-month plan to help my 11-year-old Scouts earn their Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class ranks.

Please note that this plan is unproven, but I have used the latest requirements in the *Official Boy Scout Handbook*. Additionally, as with all things in Scouting, having others use, tweak, change and ultimately prove is the beauty of the institution we all love to serve as Scouters. Please try this, change it and give me feedback, my ultimate goal in creating this plan is that this framework will help other Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters out there, facing the same quandary I faced, to come up with a sound plan of attack to help new Scouts in their first exposure to the program.

-Kris Beldin, Westview District Webmaster

Please note the following points when reviewing this plan:

- It is designed to accomplish all requirements from Scout through First Class, earning the Scout rank after the first month and then pursuing the other ranks concurrently over the course of a year.
- It is also designed to be flexible enough to allow for the Troop to contribute and plan the majority of activities throughout the year while in the 11-year-old Patrol. Remember, the Troop is to be run “by the boys.”
- It is progressive in terms of skill levels, but a new Scout could fit into the yearlong rotation with relative ease, especially if there is an older Patrol to serve as mentor, or a skilled Assistant Scoutmaster to bring new Scouts up to speed.
- It is flexible to meet the needs of the Troop; this is designed to be a framework.
- It offers the Scouts the opportunity to mark off requirements for the Hiking, Camping, First Aid, Swimming and Cooking merit badges in addition to earning the Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class ranks.
- The “New Scout Addendum” is designed to serve new Scouts that enter the program after the first month, and allows them to earn the Scout rank within a month of joining – or faster.
- The “New Scout Addendum” should be completed with the help of a senior member of the Patrol, Patrol Guide, or Assistant Scoutmaster, one requirement per week as they integrate into the Patrol.

Here are several assumptions when using this framework:

- The first few requirements of the Scout rank are not included in the plan as they require the boy to find the troop and get registered, stuff he should do on his own or with his family.
- The Scoutmaster's conference and Board of Review are not included in the framework, but easily set up.
- The requirement to live in a way as to demonstrate the Scout Oath and Law is to be tracked by the boy.

New Scout Addendum

Month 1

Week 1: Welcome to the unit

Week 2: Sc5

Week 3: Sc7

Week 4: Sc8

11-Year-Old Scout Troop | 12-Month Advancement Plan

(Sc=Scout, T=Tenderfoot, S=2nd Class, F=1st Class)

January

Activity: _____

Week 1: Sc5, Sc7, Sc8

Week 2: T6, T7, T8

Week 3: T12a, T12b

Week 4: _____

February

Activity: Build First Aid Kit (S7b)

Week 1: S7a, S7c

Week 2: F8b, F8c, F8d

Week 3: _____

Week 4: _____

March

Activity: Campout

Week 1: Sc6, T4a, T4b, T4c

Week 2: T9, T11, F4a, F4b, F4c, F4d

Week 3: T1, T2, T3, S3b (campout)

Week 4: _____

April

Activity: Hike

Week 1: T5, S2

Week 2: S1a, S1b

Week 3: F1, S6 (hike)

Week 4: _____

May

Activity: Campout

Week 1: T10a

Week 2: F7a, F7b, F8a

Week 3: S3c, S3d, S3e, S3f, S3g (campout)

Week 4: _____

June

Activity: Hike

Week 1: T10b

Week 2: _____

Week 3: F6 (hike)

Week 4: _____

July

Activity: Campout

Week 1: S4, F5, S3a

Week 2: _____

Week 3: F4e (campout)

Week 4: _____

August

Activity: Swimming

Week 1: S8a, S9a

Week 2: S8b, F9b

Week 3: S8c, F9c

Week 4: F11, S9b

September

Activity: Orienteering Course, F2

Week 1: F10, S9a

Week 2: _____

Week 3: _____

Week 4: _____

October

Activity: Service Activity, S5

Week 1: _____

Week 2: _____

Week 3: _____

Week 4: _____

November

Activity: Hike

Week 1: S10

Week 2: _____

Week 3: _____

Week 4: F3

December

Activity: _____

Week 1: _____

Week 2: _____

Week 3: _____

Week 4: _____