

SEPTEMBER – PREVIEW ADVENTURES BEGIN!

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AARON: Welcome, everyone, to *Scouting Magazine's* September CubCast. I'm Aaron Derr, and with me in hosting duties is Gina Circelli.

GINA: Thanks, Aaron. So, listeners, you may remember back in June a CubCast episode on the Preview Adventures. Well, those adventures are now up and running.

AARON: And back on the show to tell us how it's going and how you can find these adventures is Lisa Wylie.

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AARON: Lisa has been with the Scouting family for 20 years, starting as a Den Leader and serving on pack and troop committees, all the way up to serving as the current Chair of the National Cub Scout Committee. Welcome back to CubCast, Lisa.

LISA: Hey, thanks for having me.

AARON: So, just to recap for us real quick, what are Preview Adventures?

LISA: Oh, Preview Adventures are activities in a testing or experimental phase. You will not find them in your Cub Scout Handbook. They're a way for our Scouts to actually test out an activity so that we can see what works, what does not work. We really want to know what our boys and girls are doing,

how they're doing on these adventures, what they think about them before we make them a permanent part of our program.

GINA: Okay. So, I think you're touching on something I've always wondered. Exactly what's the difference between Preview Adventures and regular adventures?

LISA: Hey, that's a great question. First of all, the Preview Adventures are in flux, and requirements might change from time to time based on feedback we see from our families. Also, all these Preview Adventures are electives. And thirdly, the resources are available online only on the Preview Adventure website and in Scoutbook. This includes the den meeting resources as well as belt loops and pins. These things are not available in print or in the store.

AARON: So just to be clear, you said they're not in the current books, right? They're only online.

LISA: That is correct. You have to go out to the Preview Adventures website.

AARON: And what site is that?

LISA: There's two ways to get to that. On Scouting.org, you can go down to the Cub Scout page and on the Cub Scout page under Leader Resources you'll see Preview Adventures. That's one way. The second way is to just Google it, and I find that the easiest way to find it. Google "Cub Scout Preview Adventures" and it'll pop up first.

GINA: Lisa, can you tell us about some of the Preview Adventures that are available right now?

LISA: Sure. Right now, we have two Preview Adventures. The first one is called Protect Yourself Rules. We've partnered with the Barbara Sinatra Children's Center. The center is a leader in educating children on how to protect themselves from harm. It could be physical abuse, verbal abuse, bullying. This includes cyberbullying. The Barbara Sinatra Foundation has some wonderful materials to help children express themselves and help give them words to uncomfortable situations. The adventure is up and live for all Cub Scouts. This includes our Lions, Tigers, Wolves, Bears, Webelos and Arrow of Light ranks. The materials are all age appropriate. Our second Preview Adventure is a really fun activity many of us may remember from our childhood, yo-yos! The Dunkin Toy Company has sponsored this adventure. It's up and available for Wolves, Bears, Webelos, and Arrow of Light ranks. The den meeting resources do include videos of some of the tricks that are part of the adventure, and this will be really helpful to Den Leaders who are not yo-yo experts. They just need to show the video, and they can do that over and over again if necessary. This is a really fun adventure and can be accomplished in a single den meeting.

GINA: That sounds really fun! Do you think that, oh, somebody like, me, I'm allowed to try the Yo-Yo Adventure?

LISA: Oh, you can absolutely try the Yo-Yo!

AARON: My son is just a little older than Cub Scout age, and you give him a yo-yo and he is satisfied for hours. He would just sit there and play with that thing. It's amazing. They're old fashioned, but they're still very, very relevant, I think, right?

LISA: They are very relevant and it's really great. These den meeting requirements actually touch on laws of physics, and things of the scientific nature, so it's fun and learning at the same time.

AARON: We'll talk some more about these new Preview Adventures right after this.

COMMERICAL: Scoutbook

AARON: Lisa, tell us how are the Preview Adventures evaluated?

LISA: We would really, really love some feedback. Each of the Preview Adventures has a button on their respective websites to allow for users to give us their thoughts. We will be launching an advisory committee this fall. This group will be made up of Cub Scout parents who have committed to doing the Preview Adventures. They'll be asked specific questions to provide us their thoughts, both positive and negative, and help us make improvements and ensure quality. All feedback is welcome. We are really trying to do something new and we really need to hear from our Scouters.

GINA: So, if any of our listeners have any follow-up questions about Preview Adventures, is there a place they can go or are there any resources available to them?

LISA: All of our resources are available online on their individual adventure websites, and these include requirements, den meeting plans, videos to watch, and how to order the advancement insignia. There is even a link to record your advancement. (There's) a feedback option for any specific questions, things you think we might have been missed or need some clarification. There are multiple ways to accomplish any adventure. The goal for our kids is to be learning something during an interactive and fun environment.

AARON: Well, Lisa, is there anything else about Preview Adventures that you think we need to share with our listeners?

LISA: I am so excited about being able to test out our new ideas before we add them to our set of offered adventures, and I really love that we get immediate feedback from those who are actually doing the adventures, both adults and youth. So, please use the feedback feature and let us know what you think and tell us what you would like to see in the future. We have some exciting possibilities currently in the works, but we would also like to hear from our families that we serve.

AARON: Excellent. Excellent. So, the Youth Protection Adventure, it sounds like, is super-duper important, for sure, and the Yo-Yo Adventure just sounds like a ton of fun. So, Lisa, thanks so much for joining us on CubCast.

LISA: Hey, thanks for having me.

GINA: Stay tuned! September Reminders and Tips are coming up right after this brief Safety Moment.

(Safety Moment – Ladder Safety)

GINA: So, moving on to Reminders and Tips. Your pack School Night or Roundup should be held soon, if you haven't done so already. And don't forget to submit all new youth and adult applications and registration fees to the Council Service Center, which is super cool 'cause you can now do that online!

AARON: Remember, for every adult wanting to join Scouting, Youth Protection Training is a requirement of submitting an application. Absolutely anyone, especially parents, can take the online training by creating a My.Scouting account. Just go to Scouting.org and click the My.Scouting tab at the top of the page.

GINA: And now, this is an ongoing piece of business. The March 2017 episode explores Scoutbook, the now free tool – woo – designed to make the advancement process quick and easy.

AARON: It's very important so that the kids receive advancement credit in a timely way and the youth are recognized as soon as possible at their next meeting.

GINA: Now, we all know that Cub Scouts love the Pinewood Derby, Space Derby, and Rain Gutter Regatta, and now is the time to begin planning those events. Not next month, not next week – now. Do it for the kids!

AARON: It's also a good time to start the ball rolling on the Blue and Gold Banquet, which occurs in February. Sure, that seems like a long time from now, but we all know how time zips by, and the sooner you plan for these events, the better they are and the more the Cub Scouts and their families will enjoy the occasion.

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AARON: And now this CubCast has come to an end. Thanks again to our guest, Lisa Wylie, and thank you for listening.

GINA: If there are topics that you'd like to hear about or just want to let us know how we're doing, send us an email to Cubcast@Scouting.org, or tweet to [@CubCast](https://twitter.com/CubCast). With that, I'm Gina Circelli.

AARON: And I'm Aaron Derr. CubCast out!

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