Announcing cyberCHIP

Today’s youth are spending more time than ever using digital media for education, research, socializing, and fun. To help families and volunteers keep youth safe while online, the Boy Scouts of America introduces the Cyber Chip. In developing this exciting new tool, the BSA teamed up with content expert Netsmartz, part of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and training expert for many law enforcement agencies. Topics include cyberbullying, cell phone use, texting, blogging, gaming, and identity theft.

The Cyber Chip can be earned by any youth in the BSA’s programs:
- Cub Scouts: Grades 1-3 and 4-5
- Scouts, BSA, Venturers, and Sea Scouts: Grades 6-8 and 9-12

TO UNIT LEADERS

The Cyber Chip can be used as a tool to show skill and a commitment to do what’s right in the cyber world. Many unit leaders will be using the Cyber Chip before allowing any electronic use on outings—this is a decision each unit can make on its own, much like the Totin’ Chip is used today.

www.scouting.org/cyberchip

Integration Ideas

Unit Leaders
- Tailor the requirements to your own unit rules. Complete the requirements for the Cyber Chip as a unit at a regular meeting, then hand out the cards and patches on the spot.
- Create a fun challenge for youth to stump the unit leaders.
- Play a “Jeopardy!”-style game in a meeting to use what’s been learned.
- Play relay race or games with Tech Challenge.
- Host a panel of experts to answer all your youths’ and adults’ “how-to” questions.
- Use the Cyber Chip as a foundational step in preparation for leadership positions such as Webmaster.

Parents
Use the Cyber Chip as a tool to work with your youth to create additional open communications.
A PARENTS’ RESOURCE GUIDE ON YOUTH SAFETY

The Boy Scouts of America has provided parents with several resources to inform them on how to protect their children from child abuse. These resources can't address all threats to personal safety for our children in and out of Scouting, but they will inform and empower parents to better recognize, respond to, and report most forms of abuse and begin the conversation. For example, the *Youth Protection: How to Protect Your Children From Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide* contains information for parents about child abuse and some tips for talking with your child about child abuse. It also includes putting that knowledge to work with exercises for parents to share with their child. Research shows that children whose parents talk to them about preventing abuse are better able to protect themselves and are more likely to tell if they are experiencing abuse or have been abused. As the child grows, it’s important that we continue to teach and educate safety in all aspects of a child’s life.

Check out this guide, and many other resources below to stay informed about the Boy Scouts of America’s safety materials.

**GUIDE BOOKS**

- **CUB SCOUTS**
  - *Youth Protection - How to Protect Your Children From Child Abuse: A Parent’s Guide*
    - [https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/100-014_WEB.pdf](https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/100-014_WEB.pdf)
    - ALSO IN SPANISH at [www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/parents-guides/](https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/parents-guides/)

- **SCOUTS, BSA**
  - *Youth Protection - How to Protect Your Children From Child Abuse: A Parent’s Guide*
    - [https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/100-014_WEB.pdf](https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/100-014_WEB.pdf)
    - ALSO IN SPANISH at [www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/parents-guides/](https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/parents-guides/)

- **A TIME TO TELL**
  - *Video & Meeting Guide*
    - ALSO IN SPANISH at [www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/scouts-bsa/](https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/scouts-bsa/)

- **BULLYING AWARENESS**
  - [www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/bullying/](https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/bullying/)

- **Hazardous Weather**

- **cyberCHIP**
  - [https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/cyber-chip/](https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/cyber-chip/)

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

- **BSA National Youth Protection:** [www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection](https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection)
- **Youth Protection Training:** [https://my.scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org)
- **BSA Incident Reporting:** [www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/incident-report](https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/incident-report)
- **State-by-State Mandatory Reporting Information:** [www.childwelfare.gov](http://www.childwelfare.gov)
- **Scouts First Helpline:** 1-844-SCOUTS1 (1-844-726-8871)
- **BSA Member Care:** 972-580-2489
- **U.S. NATIONAL RESOURCES**
  - **National Center for Missing and Exploited Children: Information on Digital/Online Safety and Reporting**
  - **Netsmartz:** [www.netsmartz.org](http://www.netsmartz.org)
- **Cyber Tipline:** 800-843-5678

- **Child Help webpage:** [www.childhelp.org](http://www.childhelp.org) or 800-4-A-Child (800-422-4453)
- **Prevent Child Abuse webpage:** [www.preventchildabusegov](http://www.preventchildabusegov)
- **Committee for Children:** [www.cfcchildren.org](http://www.cfcchildren.org)
- **Hot Chocolate Talk:** [www.cfcchildren.org/blog/2018/03/the-hot-chocolate-talk/](http://www.cfcchildren.org/blog/2018/03/the-hot-chocolate-talk/)
- **Stop Bullying:** [www.stopbullying.gov](http://www.stopbullying.gov)
- **Suicide Prevention:** [www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org) or 800-273-8255