



Royal Rangers

Ranger Kids® Leaders Guide

**Produced by
Royal Rangers®**

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National Royal Rangers Staff

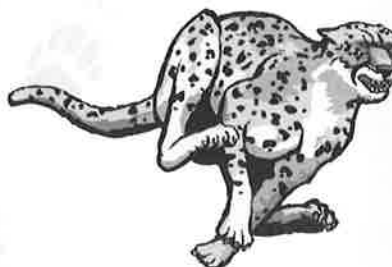
National Commander
Richard Mariott

Deputy National Commander
Mike Laliberty

Programs Coordinator
Brian Hendrickson

Developed by the Ranger Kids Resource Team
and

Angel Hendrickson
Charlie Hungerford
Adrianna Oyola
Rick Williams



Introduction

The Royal Rangers Ministry



Welcome to Royal Rangers, an action-packed, life-changing ministry to boys of all ages.

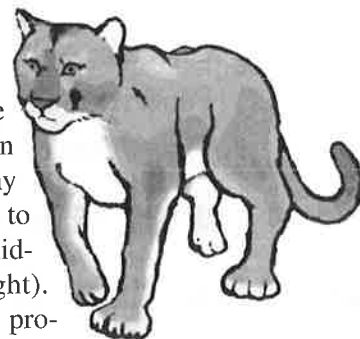
When Royal Rangers began in the early 1960s, its focus was to reach, teach, and keep boys for Jesus Christ. Johnnie Barnes was asked to spearhead this ministry, and, under the direction of the General Council of the Assemblies of God, he formed the basic purpose and goals of the Royal Rangers ministry. He had a passion for souls, which was sensed and appreciated by the many leaders he trained, encouraged, and mentored.

Using Luke 2:40 as the basis by which boys grow mentally, physically, spiritually, and socially, the Royal Rangers ministry has been developed to train the whole boy. Weekly meetings are filled with the activities, camaraderie, and spiritual challenge that boys need. Many Royal Rangers outposts offer additional events, such as Pinewood Derbies, bike rides, camp-outs, and day camps.

Over the years, Royal Rangers grew in scope and size. It began as a ministry for nine- to seventeen-year-old boys and expanded until, in 1972, it included boys from ages five to seventeen. While the primary focus of Royal Rangers has been ministry to boys, it has provided a secondary benefit of reaching the families of these boys, especially fathers. Rangers expanded beyond the United States and was quickly adopted in over sixty countries.

With growth came organization and further program development. In the 1990s, the General Council of the Assemblies of God and the Royal Rangers Executive Committee began assessing, researching, and developing a plan for Rangers in the twenty-first century. The result of much prayer, study, and development is a Royal Rangers program that still meets the needs of the total boy as well as the challenges ahead.

Boys begin their Royal Rangers adventure as kindergartners in the Ranger Kids program. A church may combine kindergarten with first and second graders or offer separate classes for each of the three grades of Ranger Kids. After a boy completes Ranger Kids, he moves into Discovery Rangers. This group is for boys in the third, fourth, and fifth grades. Commanders at this level who choose to include camping events can organize trips and begin to train the boys in camping skills. The program offers many alternatives to boys or churches that choose not to camp. Adventure Rangers is the program for the middle-school boys (grades six, seven, and eight). Expedition Rangers, with its many options, is the pro-

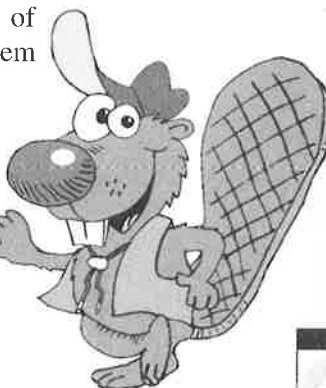


gram for the high school boys (grades nine through twelve).

The program materials for all Rangers groups are designed to be easy for a commander to use, complete in lesson plans, natural in the integration of advancements during the meetings, and great for visitors and boys who join midyear.

The goal of Royal Rangers is still to reach this generation of boys, to teach them the truths of God's Word, and to keep them for Jesus Christ.

The Ranger Kids Program



Ranger Kids is a weekly program for boys in kindergarten, first grade, and second grade. This ministry can have a profound effect on boys at this very impressionable age. The program has unlimited possibilities as a tool for evangelism, teaching, and recreation.

Boys enjoy earning advancement awards as they complete requirements on the Advancement Trail for each quarter. Each advancement requires involvement of the boys physically, spiritually, mentally, and socially. Boys will also earn two to four achievement awards each quarter, with many of the requirements being completed in the classroom.

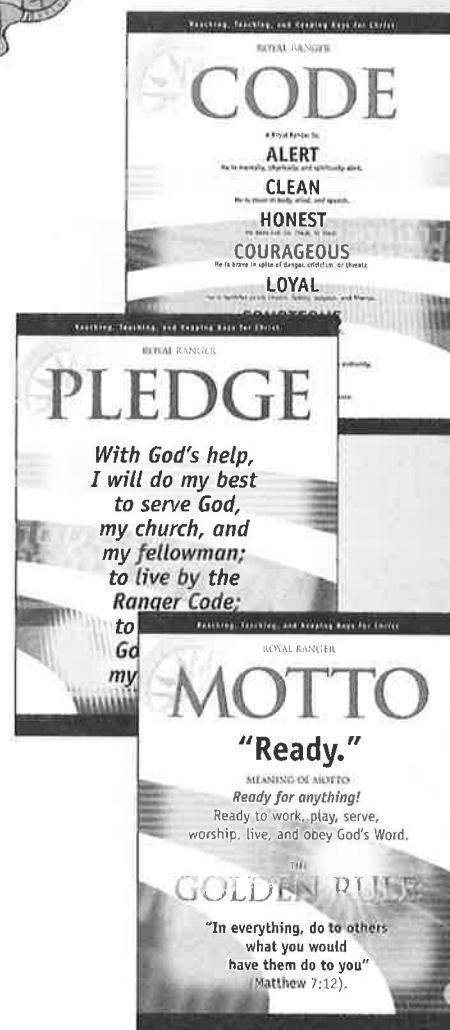
While overnight camping is not part of Ranger Kids, commanders who desire to take the group on outdoor adventures are free to organize day camps, hikes, or other activities. Many churches offer events that include all of the outpost's groups, such as Pinewood Derby races, father-and-son camp-outs, and bicycle rodeos. Many fun district activities are open to Ranger Kids as well as the older groups.

The Royal Rangers program provides the tools leaders need to teach the boys in their groups about their country, community, school, church, outpost, family, and themselves. It also helps leaders to teach the boys how to become young men of God. The boys will learn how to say no to drugs, gangs, and peer pressure, and how to make good choices. They will learn ways to say yes to their outpost, their church, and—most importantly—to Jesus Christ.

Ranger Kids Leaders Resources

Program Resources

These valuable tools have been specifically designed to help Ranger Kids leaders reach, teach, and keep boys for Christ.



Royal Rangers Leaders Manual

The *Leaders Manual* gives an overview of the entire Royal Rangers program. This resource helps Ranger Kids commanders to be effective in preparing the boys and in moving on as leaders of the other groups, if they desire. Extensive details on the mission, history, and purpose of Royal Rangers are provided. Each group within Royal Rangers is clearly described and comprehensive training information is provided. It also includes general information about working with boys of all ages. One chapter, "Substance and Child Abuse Prevention," is especially critical.

Ranger Kids Leaders Guide

The best resource available to the Ranger Kids commander is the *Ranger Kids Leaders Guide*. The *Guide* includes lesson plans for the three years of the Ranger Kids program. These lessons take the boys through their Advancement Trail. Also integrated into the meetings are opportunities for the boys to fulfill requirements for achievement awards. The *Guide* also provides weekly training tips for commanders, helping them better understand the program.

Ranger Kids Handbook

The *Ranger Kids Handbook* explains the program and requirements for the boys. It has places to check off the completion of each advancement and achievement award requirement. Also included is a chapter summarizing the story of God's plan as explained in the Bible. The *Handbook* comes with a *Preventing Child and Substance Abuse: A Parent's Guide*, which should be read by each parent. The *Guide's* last page is to be signed and returned to the group commander as a requirement for each boy to participate in Royal Rangers.

Royal Rangers Clip Art CD

This CD contains color clip art of the Ranger Kids Advancement and Achievement Awards plus Advancements for Discovery, Adventure and Expedition Rangers. The CD also includes J. B. Beaver, the Royal Ranger Emblem and logos for all Royal Rangers groups. Other clip art is also included.

Ranger Kids Workbook

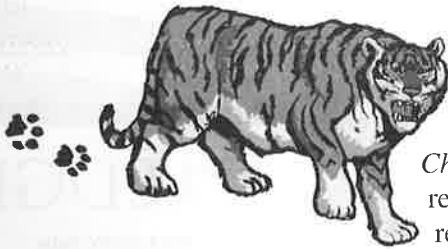
The *Ranger Kids Workbook* contains an activity page for each of the ten lessons in each quarter. The completion of these pages is necessary for the boy's advancement. A review page for week eleven allows commanders to take time to check that the boys have completed all the requirements for the advancement.

Adventures in Camping

Adventures in Camping is a valuable resource for every commander. It provides many tips on tool safety, fire craft skills, and enjoyment of the outdoors. These tips will assist the commander when coordinating day camps or council fires.

Training Resources

One of the greatest assets of the Royal Rangers ministry is the commander with a dedication to working with boys. Since the foundation of Rangers is leadership, commanders must pursue personal development through training. The purpose of training is to increase abilities, knowl-



edge, and experience in the Royal Rangers ministry. The most successful leaders are those who receive formal and comprehensive training.

The first step for every commander in the Royal Rangers ministry is enrollment in and completion of the Ranger Basics course. Ranger Basics and the training in this *Ranger Kids Leaders Guide* will enable commanders to be successful in the ministry of Royal Rangers. Further training is available to the commander as his skills increase and his responsibilities grow. The next step after the Ranger Basics course is the Leaders Medal of Achievement (LMA).

Ranger Basics Course

Introductory Training for Royal Rangers Ministry

The Ranger Basics course will prepare the commander for the outpost meeting. Every commander, councilman, chaplain, or helper in the outpost should take Ranger Basics. It is an eight-hour course that can be completed in one day or over a period of days.

All districts sponsoring Royal Rangers have instructors trained in facilitating this course. Contact your district office for more information.

Leaders Medal of Achievement (LMA): Group-Specific Training

Upon completion of the Ranger Basics course, every leader should take advantage of further training. The Leaders Medal of Achievement is based upon completion of the courses specific to a group. A Leadership Training Academy or training library is available in every Royal Rangers-sponsoring district office and through the national office. Numerous courses specific to each group are available. Each course is modular, meaning that it can be completed in a two- to three-hour setting. Upon completion of the modules the leader will earn the LMA. Contact your district office or the national office for class times, places, and materials.

Other modules include Outpost Councilman, Outpost Chaplain, Senior Commander, District Staff Member, Instructor Certification Seminar (ICS), Instructor Trainer (IT), Leadership Training Camp (LTC), or Inner City Outpost. Each leader is highly encouraged to attend training sessions and complete the various modules available.

Methods of Training

Modular classes are held at district and regional conferences. Each Royal Rangers-sponsoring district also has certified instructors available to teach in the local outpost. However, many leaders are not able to attend conferences based on time, distance, or financial resources. To facilitate these leaders, video and correspondence courses are available through the national office.

National Training

The Ranger Kids Training Conference (RKTC) is a national conference, staffed by district Royal Rangers personnel, available to all Ranger

Ranger Basics	Leaders Medal of Achievement
	Discipleship (5 hours)
	Successful Outposts (5 hours)
	Trip Planning (3 hours)
	Age-specific activities module (2 hours)
	First Aid / CPR
	Leadership Training Academy camp-out or Ranger Kids Skills or National Training Camp, Ranger Kids Training Conference, or National Training Conference
	Two elective modules (2 hours each)





Kids commanders, men and women. Information on working with boys in this group is covered in this conference. Some of the skills taught at the RKTC include how to sponsor and run a day camp, how to develop a thematic classroom (e.g., a cowboy theme), and how to make nature crafts. Leaders also learn skills in managing boys in the meetings.

Additional training for commanders is available at national events such as National Training Camp (NTC), Advanced National Training Camp (ANTC), National Training Trails (NTT), and many others. Camp craft skills, the patrol method with a senior guide, and additional outdoor skills are taught in these camps. Contact your district Royal Rangers office for scheduled events.

How to Use the Ranger Kids Leaders Guide

The introductory section of the *Leaders Guide* contains the most important and comprehensive information necessary to run a Ranger Kids group. It explains how to use the lesson plans, gives insight on the characteristics of boys, and explains how to lead them to Christ.

The next section of the *Guide* contains the lessons for the twelve quarters of the three years. "Lesson Reproducibles" provide reproducible resources needed for the meeting. Pages from the *Ranger Kids Workbook* are not included. The "Reproducibles" section provides helpful resources to assist the commander in keeping pertinent and accurate records of each boy's progress and growth. Other materials in this section include a "Quarterly Calendar," "Supply List," and a "Permission Slip."

Planning the Meeting

A Royal Rangers commander must be ready for anything, and that includes being prepared for meetings. Boys are active. Trying to stop their activity will only lead to frustration for the leader and the boys. It is not in their nature to sit still for long. Active and quiet times have been planned to provide variety and structure.

Boys need to move. They also need to obey and to remain in their seats at the appropriate times. Teach the boys to be quiet and reverent during quiet times. One method for doing this is to use a talking stick.

During discussion the talking stick can be used effectively to maintain control and structure. When a boy holds the stick, he is allowed to speak. If a boy desires to contribute to the conversation, he raises his hand. The leader hands him the talking stick. It is also important for the leader to use the talking stick as well. When the leader is speaking, he or she should always have the talking stick.

Read the lesson plan carefully at least four days before the meeting. Usually the previous lesson will indicate when important items are needed for the following week. This will insure proper preparation and collection of all equipment needed for the meeting. Remember, the boys will



act in a manner that corresponds to how well the leader has prepared.

Information has been supplied in the *Leaders Guide* to indicate about how long each activity will take. Most activities within a meeting last no longer than ten minutes. Meetings usually last from sixty to ninety minutes. This *Guide* has been designed to be flexible. Select the activities you want to do and adjust the time you spend on each to fit the time frame of your meeting.

Philosophy of a Successful Meeting

The success or failure of a Royal Rangers group is based on the meeting.

- 🐾 Meetings should be well-planned and well-coordinated. Boys should be given plenty of activity, but boisterous meetings can kill the program.
- 🐾 Royal Rangers meetings should be held on a regular basis, preferably weekly. Regular meeting times provide consistency with the boys and lead to a successful program.
- 🐾 Balance fun and accomplishments. Each meeting should give boys an opportunity to progress along the Advancement Trail and to have fun.
- 🐾 Start and end meetings on time. This will help to alleviate parental tension and tardiness of the boys.
- 🐾 Adequate preparation is vital and should be done well in advance. Set goals and work toward them. Each lesson has a lesson objective, Tonight's Meeting, on the first page of every lesson. The entire meeting has been strategically designed to make a significant impact on the life of every boy.
- 🐾 Planning and prayer go hand in hand. Invite the Holy Spirit to help you plan lessons and minister to the boys.

The Quarter Approach

Each year of Ranger Kids consists of four quarters. Each quarter has a theme and is designed to teach the whole boy, as explained in the meaning of the Royal Rangers Emblem. The first quarter of each year focuses on the community, whether it is the church, the local community, or the mission field. The second quarter has an animal theme. These lessons are designed to teach boys characteristics each boy should possess: obedience, bravery, and trust. The third quarter teaches about the role of the family. The fourth quarter teaches about the outdoors. Each lesson in the four quarters is built to train boys within the frame of the theme.

Meetings for the Quarter

WEEKS ONE THROUGH TEN: WEEKLY MEETING

Each meeting in the quarter has a specific goal. The entire meeting has been strategically planned to accomplish the goal stated on the first page of the lesson plan. The boys will advance based upon completion of Scripture memorization and *Workbook* pages, Royal Rangers content knowledge, and activities inside and outside the meeting.

WEEK ELEVEN: REVIEW SESSION

The eleventh week provides an opportunity for the leader and boys to complete requirements and crafts for the quarter. It is also a time to begin



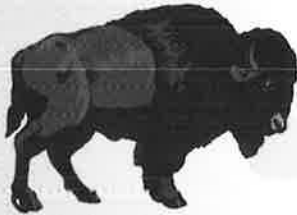
planning activities for the next quarter. The boys can also hold elections for patrol guides and assistant patrol guides for the coming quarter.

WEEK TWELVE: COUNCIL OF ACHIEVEMENT

The twelfth week is a formal ceremony that recognizes the boys for their achievements. This is also an opportunity for leaders to meet parents and acquaint them with the ministry of Royal Rangers. It is important to present awards individually to each boy. Even newer boys should be recognized with a certificate. The ceremony is conducted with dignity, honor, and respect but is also a time to have some fun. Some outposts have barbecues or activities along with the council's ceremony. Each group is given opportunity to demonstrate something they've worked on during the quarter.

WEEK THIRTEEN: HOLIDAYS AND CHURCH EVENTS

While thirteen weeks make up a quarter, this program intentionally has only twelve weeks. This allows for times during the year when Rangers is not held, for example, during Christmas vacation or when the church holds special meetings. See the "Annual Planning Guide Sample" in the "Reproducibles" section to see how this might work out in a year's schedule.



Ranger Kids Features

J. B. Beaver

J. B. Beaver is found throughout the *Ranger Kids Handbook* and *Ranger Kids Workbook*. This character is nonthreatening, which makes him an effective teaching tool for Ranger boys of this age. J. B. Beaver can be used to teach the Bible Study, Devotion, and more, depending upon how each leader uses him. The J. B. Beaver puppet is available from Gospel Publishing House.

Ranger Kids Advancement Songs and Pledges CD

A *Ranger Kids Advancement Songs and Pledges* CD is available from Gospel Publishing House with songs and pledges the boys will need to learn as they advance through the program. This CD can be used during the Opening and Closing Ceremonies. Make parents aware of this CD, as they may choose to purchase one for home use.

Memory Verse Hand Signs Video

This video, available from Gospel Publishing House, contains the memory verses from the Advancement Trail in a simplified sign language format. The video can be used as a teaching tool to help the boys learn their memory verses.

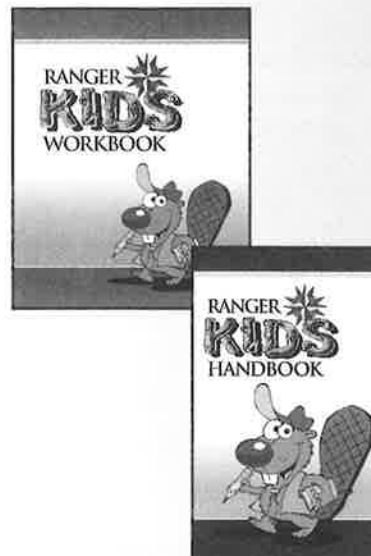
Ranger Kids Workbook

The *Ranger Kids Workbook* contains activities that the boys are required to complete for their advancements. When a boy is competing for Ranger of the Year, his *Workbook* will provide an accurate record of his work and accomplishments. Keep the *Ranger Kids Workbooks* at church. When a boy moves up to Discovery Rangers or leaves the outpost, give the boy his *Ranger Kids Workbook* to take with him. At a boy's last

Ranger Kids Council of Achievement, before he moves up to Discovery Rangers, a special announcement could be made and the boy could receive his Ranger Kids Workbook.

Ranger Kids Handbook

The *Ranger Kids Handbook* is designed to help the boy and his parents understand the Ranger Kids program. Each boy in Ranger Kids needs his own book so his parents and leaders can sign off as he completes requirements for advancements and achievement awards. The *Handbook* presents the gospel in a very readable and interesting format.



The Weekly Meeting

Tonight's Meeting

This is the goal for the meeting. Each part of the meeting plan is designed to help you reach this goal.

Tonight's Statement

This is a short description of the meeting's theme.

Leadership Training

This will help a leader learn more about Royal Rangers and Ranger Kids. Helpful information or ideas for each section of the meeting will be given here. An icon of the meeting point discussed is placed to the left of the text.

Materials

This is a list of items needed for each segment of the meeting. (The list of basic items needed for every meeting is included in the "Facilities and Equipment" section of this introduction.)



1. While the Boys Arrive

Low-key activities are suggested to keep the boys busy before the meeting begins.

2. Opening Ceremony

The boys gather for a group opening, usually reciting some of the memory requirements for the quarter. This segment always includes prayer.

Advancement Requirements

The quarter's advancement requirements, which could be reviewed during the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, are listed in this section. If you are working with all three grades, work on areas the boys need help with or choose to review all requirements.

3. Business/Patrol Corners

The boys work together as a team in taking attendance, praying, working on a project, planning an activity, developing their patrol identity.



Teaching Tips, Classroom Management, Facts About Boys

Every lesson has helps to increase the commander's teaching skills. A subject index of all tips is included at the back of this *Guide*.

4. Bible Study

Truths are presented through interactive Bible stories to build biblical knowledge. A brief review activity will help the leader know that the boys understood the story.

Achievement Patch

This gives information related to one of the achievement awards being worked on during that quarter.

5. Program Feature

In this main segment of the meeting the boys will complete a craft, develop a skill, or be involved in an activity. The boys can work on a requirement for an achievement award at this time.

Animal Facts

These are interesting facts about the animal featured on the quarter's advancement patch.

6. Advancement

The boys work in their *Ranger Kids Workbooks* during this time, completing a portion of the requirements for the Advancement Trail.

7. Recreation

Often the games suggested tie in with the goal for the lesson.

8. Devotion

The devotion emphasizes one spiritual truth. Make the devotion the focus of the meeting. It has been designed to elicit a response from the boys.

9. Closing Ceremony

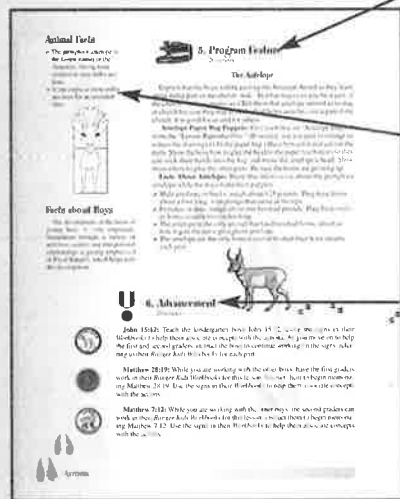
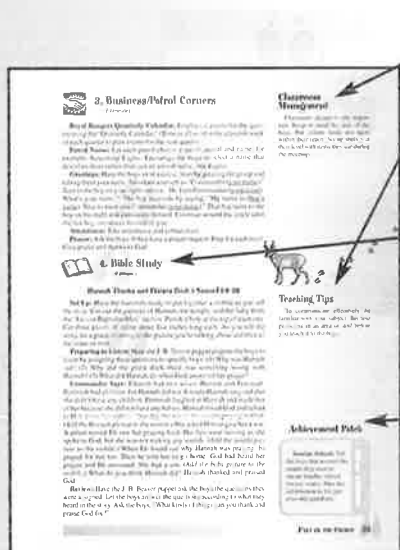
This is a time for the boys to respond to the devotion. It always includes prayer.

10. After the Meeting

These are suggested activities for the commander to do after a meeting ends.

Encouragement

This is a positive statement to encourage the commander.



The Ranger Kids Advancement Trail

The Ranger Kids Advancement Trail is based on the needs, interests, and characteristics of boys in kindergarten, first grade, and second grade. The Trail is a plan of advancement through learning—from both experiences and activities—and being recognized for this learning. It is designed to offer every boy adventure and fun. The Trail is more than an interesting course of action; it is a new experience—a new achievement. It is a Ranger's opportunity to grow through new abilities, knowledge, and desires.

The *Ranger Kids Workbook*, *Ranger Kids Handbook*, and the *Ranger Kids Leaders Guide* have been designed to work together. The *Workbook* helps boys learn their advancement requirements and remember what they've learned. The commander should keep each boy's *Workbook* at the church. The *Handbook* is designed for use at home by the boy and his parents. It also serves as an evangelistic and discipleship tool because the gospel message is clearly detailed in the last chapter.

Boys in remote areas or those not attached to a local outpost can follow this program with an adult by using the *Handbook*, *Workbook*, and *Leaders Guide*. Since the *Leaders Guide* provides the full curriculum for Ranger Kids, any leader, parent, or guardian can help a boy achieve and grow in wisdom and grace.

Options for Groupings

Each outpost is unique and offers different opportunities. Some outposts may have only one commander to teach all the boys in Ranger Kids. Others will have several commanders for this group. This *Guide* has been developed to provide flexibility and structure to enable one-, two-, and three-class options for teaching.

Boys can work on their Advancement Trail while there is more than one grade in the room. Kindergarten boys can work on the Trail to the Elk, first grade boys on the Trail to the Wolverine, and second grade boys on the Trail to the Cougar. If a commander has all three grades in one room, he may choose for everyone to work on the same Trail at the same time.

One-Commander Option

The Ranger Kids program works well in a church that puts all kindergartners, first graders, and second graders in one class. Each corresponding quarter of the three years emphasizes the same theme. For example, the first quarter of each year emphasizes Community. Each Trail looks at the theme from a different perspective. The boys can satisfy their Trail's requirements even when grouped with boys from all three grades. In the first quarter, the physical requirement for all three years includes making a patrol flag. Boys working on any of the three Trails can make separate patrol flags or one joint flag, fulfilling that requirement for their award.



The challenge for the commander will be during the Advancement segment of the meeting, since each year will complete a different page in the *Workbook*. However, this part of the lesson is written to assist the commander in helping the boys meet the requirements for their Trail.

Two-Commander Option

The most logical division of Ranger Kids into two classes is to have one class for kindergartners and a combined class for first and second graders. This is due to the differences in the developmental levels of the boys. Generally, the kindergartner is a prereader and requires more individual attention. First- and second-grade boys are emerging readers with more advanced motor and conceptual skills.

Three-Commander Option

The preferred option is to have a separate class for each Trail. There are several ways to do this. One would be to have a commander always teach kindergarten, one always teach first grade, and one always teach second grade. Another way is for three commanders to each work with the same group of boys as they advance through Ranger Kids. When boys move to Discovery Rangers after second grade, their commander starts with a new group of kindergarten boys and sees them through the Ranger Kids program.

Flexibility of the Program

The following suggestions have been used successfully at many churches.

- ❖ In order to reduce the load for each commander, all boys meet for a joint Opening Ceremony. A senior guide, chosen for the entire outpost, is very involved with the Opening Ceremony. The groups then break off for Business/Patrol Corners, Bible Study, Program Feature, and Advancement, and then come back together for Recreation, Devotion, and Closing Ceremony.
- ❖ Outings are planned for more than one group. It is always important to maintain structure and discipline, especially when bringing various ages together. This works well when every commander attends and fulfills specific responsibilities.
- ❖ Hold an outing with other outposts. A larger outpost with experienced commanders can be a great assistance to a smaller outpost. Contact the section commander for other ideas and contact information for other outposts.
- ❖ Planning is the key to a successful meeting, especially when a commander is working alone with a group. Be sure to have detailed instructions and appropriate materials for any assistants. All prospective workers should complete your church's children's worker application and be approved before participating in the classroom.

The following chart provides an overview of the requirements for each quarter on the Advancement Trail.



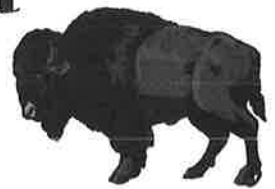
Year	Quarter	Theme	Physical	Spiritual	Mental	Social	Achievement Patches
Eik	Antelope	Community: Church	- Clean around the church. - Make a patrol flag.	- Memorize John 15:12. - Memorize Romans 12:10.	- Pledge to the Christian flag - Blue point Alert	- Learn the name and address of your church. - Go to one outpost activity.	- Church Helper - Church History - Joyful Noise - Sunday School
	Ram	Animals: Strength	- Help the commander set up and clean the room. - Make a patrol collage.	- Memorize Proverbs 18:10. - Memorize Romans 1:16.	- Pledge to the United States flag - Blue point Loyal	- Learn your pastor's name. - Go to one outpost activity.	- Craft - Help the Commander - Strong Body - What's On TV
	Caribou	Family: Family	- Do a chore at home. - Make a poster on fire safety.	- Memorize Ephesians 6:1. - Memorize Leviticus 19:32.	- Song "Wherever I Go, God Is With Me" - Blue point Honest	- Name two dads in the Bible. - Go to one outpost activity.	- Clean Body - Family History - Firefighter - Home Helper
	Buffalo	Outdoors: Creation	- Clean around the church. - Make a walking stick.	- Memorize Genesis 1:1. - Memorize Psalm 139:14.	- Song "In the Beginning" - Blue point Spiritual	- Name three creations from the Bible. - Go to one outpost activity.	- Games - Noah's Ark - Outing - Rangers About Town
	Beaver	Community: City	- Clean around the church. - Make a patrol flag.	- Memorize Matthew 28:19. - Memorize 1 Corinthians 16:13, 14. - Memorize Matthew 5:16.	- Song "Jesus Loves the Little Children" - Blue point Courteous	- Name two missionaries. - Go to one outpost activity.	- Community Helper - Government - Help a Neighbor - Safety
Wolverine	Fox	Animals: Bravery	- Help the commander set up and clean the room. - Make a patrol collage.	Memorize Psalm 23.	- Song "Psalm 23" - Blue point Courageous	- List five rules to obey at home. - Go to one outpost activity.	- Defender of the Word - Deer of the Word - Flag - Sporting Event
	Coyote	Family: Obedience	- Do a chore at home. - Make a poster on traffic safety.	- Memorize John 14:15. - Memorize 1 Timothy 4:12. - Memorize Psalm 119:11.	- Song "Jesus, You Are Lord" - Blue point Obedient	- Name two famous hunters in the Bible. - Go to one outpost activity.	- Going Places - Keeper of the Law - Money Helper - Patrol Helper
	Badger	Outdoors: Conservation	- Collect recyclables around the church. - Make a walking stick.	- Memorize Colossians 3:23. - Memorize Genesis 1:28. - Memorize Psalm 34:12, 13.	- Song "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands" - Blue point Clean	- Name the four Gospels. - Go to one outpost activity.	- Cooking - Day Camp - Old West - Taking Care of God's World
	Lynx	Community: Missions	- Do a chore at home. - Make a patrol flag.	- Memorize Matthew 7:12, the Golden Rule. - Memorize Matthew 7:13, 14. - Memorize Acts 1:8.	- Song "Amazing Grace" - Gold point Spiritual - Red point Salvation	- Bring two friends to Royal Rangers. - Go to one outpost activity.	- Arts - Buddy Barrel - History - Light for the Lost
	Cheetah	Animals: Trust	- Help the commander set up and clean the room. - Make a patrol collage.	- Memorize John 3:16. - Memorize Zephaniah 3:12. - Memorize John 20:31.	- Pledge to the Bible - Gold point Physical - Red point Healing	- Learn the names of all commanders in your outpost. - Go to one outpost activity.	- Be a Friend - God is Working - In the Air - Map
Cougar	Panther	Family: Life of Christ	- Do a chore at home. - Make a poster of your church.	Memorize Matthew 6:9-13, the Lord's Prayer.	- Song "Trust and Obey" - Gold point Mental - Red point Baptism in the Holy Spirit	- Name three disciples. - Go to one outpost activity.	- Puppet - School - Telling Others About Jesus - Working Together
	Tiger	Outdoors: Nature	- Pick up trash around the church. - Make a walking stick.	- Memorize Psalm 119:105. - Memorize Matthew 6:26. - Memorize James 1:17.	- Song "Ready" - Gold point Social - Red point Rapture	- Name the closest national forest. - Go to one outpost activity.	- Adventures on Wheels - Nature - Sports - Tying Knots

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Facilities and Equipment



Provide seating and tables that are sized for the boys. Be sure there is enough room so that the boys don't feel crowded as they work on projects. If possible, have a separate semicircle of chairs or floor space for

story time. The change in seating will create variety and movement for the boys. If a boy has a behavior problem, you can pull up a chair and sit next to him without even saying why. This often stops the behavior.

Record Keeping

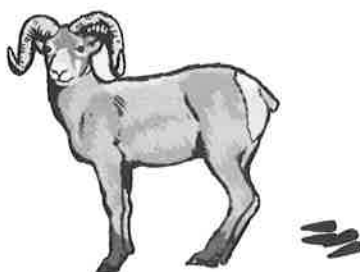
Good record keeping is important in Ranger Kids. Not only does it show what a boy has accomplished, it helps when you distribute awards, communicate with parents, and advance a boy to the next group. Spend time keeping up-to-date records, or assign someone this task. This *Leaders Guide* has a section of reproducible forms you will find useful for your group. These may be used as provided or adapted to serve your out-post's needs. Keep a copy of the forms at the front of your *Guide* or on the wall as a visual of the boys' progress in the program.

Equipment and Supplies

Each lesson has specific materials needed. Many are common supplies that most churches use in classrooms, like white and colored construction paper, pencils, glue, scissors, markers, crayons, paint, and paintbrushes. These basic materials may be used weekly and should, therefore, always be available. Also, balls and balloons are used for a number of activities. You may want to keep Ranger Kids supplies in your room or another designated area. Use the "Supply List" from the "Reproducibles" section to help you maintain your stock of supplies.

Here are some other helpful items to have in your room, if possible.

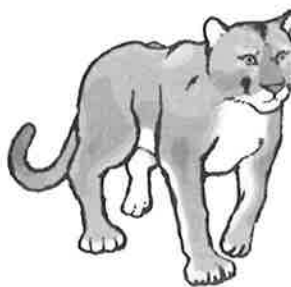
- 🦋 Coat rack
- 🦋 Open shelves
- 🦋 Drawer space
- 🦋 Blackboard/white board
- 🦋 Bulletin board/felt board
- 🦋 Smocks or old shirts for painting



Characteristics of Ranger Kids

Understanding what young boys are like will help you be an effective teacher. When you respect boys, they will learn to respect you and others. By respecting boys, you will build their self-esteem. Here are some ways you can get to know the boys and treat them with respect.

- 🐾 Observe them.
- 🐾 Listen to their conversations.
- 🐾 Visit their homes.
- 🐾 Play with them.
- 🐾 Call the boys by name.
- 🐾 Instruct them to say "Commander (first or last name)."
- 🐾 Make newcomers feel welcome.



- 🐾 Be sincere. The boys will detect insincerity immediately.
- 🐾 Encourage quality work and effort.

The following charts give a quick overview of the general characteristics of boys in kindergarten, first grade, and second grade. Alongside the characteristics are tips on how you can meet the needs of boys and encourage their development.

Kindergartners

Physically	
What this means for the boy:	What this means for the commander:
He runs, jumps, climbs, learns to hop and skip, and is very curious. He would rather play than do anything.	Understand that play is a boy's work. It is important to his mind, body, and character. Always provide time for the Recreation part of the meeting.
He uses his skills with a purpose.	He can build, speak, and sing.
He learns by being involved and advancing and is increasing in the ability to learn through language.	Involve him in relating the Bible Study, Devotion, or Program Feature. Let him act out a story, help you hold an item for demonstration, or participate in crafts.
He is growing in his motor coordination and small-muscle development. He establishes his handedness (right or left).	Provide activities that help develop his small-muscle skills, such as using scissors, paintbrushes, crayons, and pencils. Be prepared to assist him when he needs help.
He is energetic and active.	Play should not be prolonged. He will tire after a period of time and need a slower, quieter activity for a time. Change is important.
He tires from being inactive as well as from vigorous activity.	Alternate the activities to include indoor and outdoor activities.
His voice may tire easily.	Alternate talking and singing with listening. When singing, encourage easy singing, or he may tend to yell as he tries to be loud.
His voice range is middle C and above.	Try to keep songs within his range. Do not expect boys to sing on pitch.

Spiritually	
What this means for the boy:	What this means for the commander:
He understands that God is a Person who always lives, is powerful, can do anything, is everywhere, and we can be part of His family.	He has a simple, believing faith. He believes everything told to him.
He understands that Jesus was different from other babies. Jesus came from God, was born into the world, is God's Son, is the God-Man, is special, is One of a kind, is his Savior from sin, and comes to live in his heart.	Be truthful in answering his questions. Stories should show that Jesus loves children and is always with them.
He understands that the Holy Spirit is a Person who thinks, acts, helps, speaks, is with us, and came to be with Jesus' friends.	He is growing in the understanding of God, Jesus, the Bible, and the Church. He is interested in learning more about God and how people interact with God.

Spiritually (continued)	
What this means for the boy:	What this means for the commander:
He understands the difference between right and wrong ; is developing the concept of sin as doing things God does not want him to do; learns of negative consequences to himself, then does right for personal satisfaction.	He needs specific examples of being kind; obeying; going to Sunday school, church, and Rangers; praying; and learning from the Bible.
He understands that salvation is focused on loving and obeying God.	He may feel a need for a Savior. He can accept Jesus as Savior, develop his personal relationship with God, and grow in faith.
He understands that in death , a dead person lies still, doesn't move, and doesn't come back to life.	Reality and fantasy get mixed up. Let him know if you are telling true stories or fiction.
He understands that heaven and hell are places a person can go after death.	Be careful not to overdo descriptions of devils, giants, or other scary subjects.
Other Issues: He can give, worship, and understand that prayer is talking to God.	Provide opportunities to experience these parts of being a Christian.

Mentally	
What this means for the boy:	What this means for the commander:
He uses language with a purpose.	Have him use words when he needs something or to settle disputes. He can make up stories, and he loves to share prayer requests. He likes to bring things from home for show-and-tell.
He sees everything from his own view.	He needs help in seeing that others have feelings and different perspectives than he does.
He finds work with numbers exciting because he is beginning to understand that numbers indicate objects.	Count out objects you are working with; count backwards from ten as boys move to a different area in the room or to a new position for another activity.
He does not yet understand the concepts of time and space.	Concentrate on the events in the story, but let him know whether something took place in today's times, in Bible times, or when his grandfather was a boy like him.
He is a questioner.	Give answers he can understand.
He is curious.	Provide a setting and activities where he can experiment and investigate.
He has a short interest/attention span.	Keep things moving and watch for signs of restlessness during an activity.
His vocabulary is increasing but limited.	Use simple words. Add to his vocabulary by frequently using words such as <i>Christian</i> and <i>sin</i> , and give brief definitions of new words.
He learns more by seeing and doing than by just listening.	Teach him to use his senses. Provide things to see, touch, hear, smell, and taste.
He forgets easily.	Do not expect him to remember everything from last week. Use pictures to help him recall. Have him recite with the group.
He has an active imagination.	Stretch his thinking—let him pretend to be almost anyone or anything.

Socially	
What this means for the boy:	What this means for the commander:
He can face his fears but still needs some help.	He seeks and needs approval. He trusts others, especially his commander. He needs leaders who won't betray his trust. Recognize his unselfish acts of kindness and cooperation.
He plays with, not just beside, other boys.	He is sympathetic and wants to help others. He likes to make others happy and responds to suggestions.
He can be led to protect and love younger children.	He becomes considerate of others and learns to share. Provide him opportunities to express his love.
He shares, cooperates, settles disputes, plans together with friends, shows kindness, takes turns, plays fair, competes, and achieves.	He develops interests outside of home. Minimize the attention given to improper behavior.

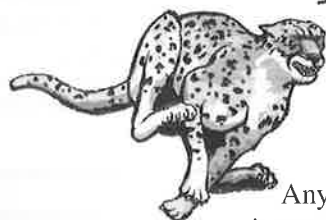
First and Second Graders

Physically	
What this means for the boy:	What this means for the commander:
He would rather play than do anything and usually prefers active play.	Always provide time for the Recreation segment of the meeting.
He learns by being involved and advancing and is increasing in his ability to learn through language.	Play stimulates the imagination. Find ways to help him learn through acting and using his imagination to place himself in the role of a Bible character.
His motor coordination and small-muscle skills continue to develop. He usually enjoys making things.	Provide opportunities for him to make things individually and as part of a group.
He establishes his handedness (right or left).	Provide activities that help develop his small-muscle skills, such as using scissors, paintbrushes, crayons, and pencils. Be prepared to assist him when he needs help.
He is developing skills in getting along with others.	Provide many opportunities for him to work in his patrol or as part of a team.
He can play longer than when he was in kindergarten.	Provide more challenging games, but stay alert to signs of his tiring or needing a change of activity.
He likes to know the rules and play by them. He is gaining a sense of what is fair and what is unfair.	Give clear and specific instructions for every game or activity. Failure to do this results in arguments, frustration, and confusion.
His voice may tire easily. His voice range is middle C and above.	Alternate talking and singing with listening. When singing, encourage easy singing, or he may tend to yell as he tries to be loud. Try to keep songs within his range. Do not expect boys to sing on pitch.

Spiritually	
What this means for the boy:	What this means for the commander:
He understands that God is a Person who always lives, is powerful, can do anything, is everywhere, and we can be part of His family.	He is growing in the understanding of God, Jesus, the Bible, and the Church. He is interested in learning more about God and how people serve God. Ask simple questions to determine his understanding.
He understands that Jesus was different from other babies. Jesus came from God, was born into the world, is God's Son, is the God-Man, is special, is One of a kind, is his Savior from sin, and comes to live in his heart.	He is beginning to understand his need for a Savior but needs to see God's love for him through the actions of caring adults.
He understands that the Holy Spirit is a Person who thinks, acts, helps, speaks, is with us, and came to be with Jesus' friends.	He is growing in the understanding of God, Jesus, the Bible, and the Church. He is interested in learning more about God and how people interact with God.
He understands the difference between right and wrong ; is developing the concept of sin as doing things God does not want him to do; learns of negative consequences to himself, then does right for personal satisfaction.	Talk about making choices based on biblical standards.
He understands that salvation is focused on loving and obeying God.	He can accept Jesus as Savior, develop his personal relationship with God, and grow in faith. He can learn God's Word and develop healthy Christian behaviors, like devotions, prayer, witnessing, and Bible reading.
He understands that in death , a dead person lies still, doesn't move, and doesn't come back to life.	Emphasize that people who love God are with Him after the body dies.
He understands that heaven and hell are places a person can go after death.	Help him to understand that it is God's desire for all people to choose to be saved and live with Him in heaven.
Other Issues: He can give, worship, and understand that prayer is talking to God.	Provide opportunities for him to discuss and experience these parts of being a Christian.

Mentally	
What this means for the boy:	What this means for the commander:
He knows how to use language as a tool.	Allow each boy the opportunity to talk, and encourage others to listen to him. Be patient when a boy wants to talk with you, and take the time to listen.
He can tell time and understand the calendar. He can also measure.	Give him opportunities to help more, plan upcoming events, and prepare supplies for the meetings.
He is becoming increasingly interested in music.	Use music in the meetings, both recordings and instruments. Encourage him to use music to praise God.
He is beginning to read; he understands and enjoys familiar rhymes, tales, and beginner books.	Some boys may be markedly more advanced than others in the area of reading skills, and they can be very helpful in assisting other boys.
He learns more by seeing and doing than by just listening.	Teach him to use his senses. Provide things to see, touch, hear, smell, and taste.
He forgets easily.	Do not expect him to remember everything from last week. Use pictures to help him recall. Have him recite with the group.

Socially	
What this means for the boy:	What this means for the commander:
He is learning to take turns.	Use the talking stick consistently. Make sure that every boy has a chance to speak.
He is learning there are rules in groups (raising his hand to talk, getting in line to go somewhere together, etc.).	Be patient and explain the rules as needed.
He is learning empathy.	Provide opportunities for him to express his love and concern for others.
He can take on greater responsibility for himself and the group.	Give him opportunities to lead and to serve.
He needs to be accepted by his peers and can easily be hurt by things they do and say.	Be sensitive to interactions between boys and help them to be aware of how their actions and words affect each other. Watch for the boy who is not accepted and create opportunities for inclusion.
His friends are generally boys.	Teach him how to respond appropriately to others and how to empathize with others' feelings.
He shares, cooperates, settles disputes, plans together with friends, shows kindness, takes turns, plays fair, competes, and achieves.	He develops interests outside of home. Minimize the attention given to improper behavior.



Ranger Kids and the Community

Any church with a Royal Rangers outpost can make a significant impact on the community. The skills taught throughout the year and the flexibility of the Rangers ministry provide a program for all boys. It is important for each leader to be intentional in developing community spirit in the outpost, in the home, and in the church. Here are some suggestions to broaden the boys' experiences in the community.

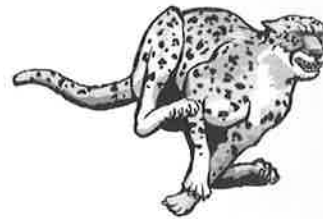
-  Contact the local visitor's bureau or chamber of commerce for a visitor's guide.
-  Purchase a local road map that has historical information about your community.
-  Contact local museums or the historical society.
-  Contact community leaders and ask them to present information for Program Features and special events. Police and fire departments can be especially helpful.
-  Investigate participating in any local community parades.
-  Contact local, city, or county agencies, and offer the help of the boys for a community project. The public works department is often the contact for such projects.
-  Contact a senior citizen's center and offer the services of the outpost.
-  Have the boys wear their uniforms to school one day in preparation for



a promotional activity or Royal Rangers event.

- ❧ Make crafts and sell them at a local craft fair.
- ❧ Visit a local hospital (this usually requires high parental involvement).
- ❧ Visit the elderly from your church and the neighborhood.
- ❧ Volunteer at a center that provides food for the hungry.
- ❧ Ask your pastor how your group can assist the community.
- ❧ If a boy from another church attends your meetings, honor him at his church. For instance, if a boy becomes Ranger of the Year and he attends another church, ask his pastor for permission to present that honor to the boy at his own church.

Discipline in Ranger Kids Meetings



The ideal meeting has the boys totally involved in all the activities with no one complaining about the meeting being boring and no boys causing trouble. That probably doesn't happen too often. A good meeting makes teaching the boys worthwhile. So is there a way you can have more good meetings? You can be more successful, create meetings that the boys can't wait to come to, and see your group grow in all ways.

Before any discussion on developing and maintaining classroom management, you need to understand the typical behavior of boys. A boy's behavior is an expression of his emotions and his reality. Most boys have not developed adequate communication or social skills to express their feelings. Instead, they have learned to express those feelings through their behavior.

If adults give the boy attention only when his behavior is inappropriate, he will continue inappropriate behavior to get the attention he needs. Boys will model the behavior of the adults in his life. An abused boy is more likely to become an abuser because he has learned to express feelings through abusing others.

A commander needs to learn how to read a boy's behavior to determine how the boy might be feeling. A boy caught cheating on a test may indicate he cares about his grade but has not taken the appropriate steps to achieve that desired grade. Understanding allows a wise commander to guide a boy in better ways to achieve the desired result.

When we base our discipline on Philippians 2:3,4, we will treat boys with respect and love. We can look to the interests of the boys and, with humility, guide them in ways of interacting with others that will be to their long-term benefit.

A Proactive Approach

A commander can avoid behavior problems in his class by taking a proactive approach. This means that he does things to prevent problems. This approach is the most important tool in classroom management. Proactive steps occur before the meeting begins.

The Room

The tips below will assist the commander in designing a room that will aid classroom management.

-  Seating arrangement: Arrange proper-size tables and chairs. Allow space in the room for the boys to sit on the floor.
-  Lighting and ventilation: Make sure the room has sufficient light and proper airflow.
-  Temperature control: Keep the temperature at a comfortable level—not too cold or hot.
-  Noise from adjoining classrooms: When you must be near another class, establish times when both classrooms are loud at the same time so the noise does not disturb the other group.
-  Distractions: Minimize distractions. Some boys cannot deal well with items hanging from the ceiling or with a room containing an overabundance of decoration.
-  Space per person: The younger the boys, the more space they need.
-  Stick together: Keep the boys together during the various segments of the meeting.
-  Equipment and teaching aids: Have proper equipment available or installed.
-  Assistants: Recruit and work with other commanders in designing a comfortable and attractive room.



Planning the Lesson

It cannot be emphasized enough: you must have a plan. Be firm, organized, and loving.

-  Instructional material: Have all the materials for the meeting within reach throughout the meeting.
-  Program: Review the lesson at least once before the meeting and know how to use the materials to teach each segment.
-  Interest: Many discipline problems are caused by boredom and lack of interest. Planning and organization will help keep the boys from getting bored.
-  Prayer: Prayerfully plan ahead.
-  Session length: Avoid long sessions. The meeting plan has been designed to keep the meeting moving.
-  Punctuality: Start and end on time. Use the review session during the eleventh week to catch up on projects in the quarter the boys may not have completed.
-  Time-schedule conflicts: Communicate with other commanders to avoid any conflicts in the schedule.
-  Visitors: Prepare additional materials for visitors.
-  Time lags: Long gaps between speakers and activities can contribute to the boys' becoming restless. Move deliberately from meeting segment to segment.

Proximity

Your proximity to the boys can have a positive affect on their behavior and keep inappropriate behavior from occurring.

-  Stay close enough to the boys to help them as needed during crafts and

other interactive activities. When assisting the boys, sit or kneel next to them to be on their level.

 Stand in front of the boys in one spot when giving directions.

An Active Approach

Be active in your meetings. Use your skills and energy to direct the boys on the path you want them to take. This will keep the boys interested and keep the meeting moving.

The Lesson

Each lesson has a theme incorporating each activity, story, and devotion. This helps the boys see how their activities are related. Here are some other classroom management tips to remember during the lesson.

-  Introduce all the commanders.
-  Explain the subject for the night.
-  Tell why the lesson is important.
-  Explain what is expected of the boys. Establish guidelines, rules, and boundaries.
-  Illustrate important points.
-  Keep the class moving.
-  Use the natural curiosity of boys to lead to the next part of the lesson or to get them excited about next week's lesson. End the meeting by hinting of more good things to follow in the next meeting.

Interaction With Boys

Staying connected with the boys will help manage the behavior in the room.

-  Keep a good commander-boy relationship.
-  Base all interaction on love and respect.
-  Make sure the boys understand what is expected of them.
-  Be clear that group cooperation is expected.
-  Be fair but firm in expectations.
-  Encourage self-discipline on the part of each boy.
-  Challenge each boy to do his part to keep order by being attentive, showing respect, and obeying his commander.
-  Keep a positive attitude throughout the meeting.

Movement

Boys must be given the opportunity to move. The lessons have periods of motion and periods of rest. These are some specific strategies for boys who need even more movement.

-  Between each part of the lesson, move the boys to another place in the room.
-  The lessons are designed so the activities provide the necessary movement, but each commander must be intentional in utilizing movement.
-  Give very active boys the option of sitting in one of two seats. Allow



a boy to move to either seat when he needs to.

 Give a boy the option of sitting, standing, or kneeling, as long as he is doing his work and staying in his assigned area.

A Reactive Approach

There are times when you need to react to a situation. There are poor ways of reacting and better ways. Having a plan ahead of time will help you to react in a way that continues to foster growth and trust among the boys.

Body language is a significant method of communicating. Most of our communication occurs through body language. That is why when a new boy enters the room the leader should get down to his level and greet him. This says to the boy, "You are important here."

Another way we use body language is to stop boys from being boisterous or overly active. The commander designates a physical gesture and remains standing in place, for example, raising his hand in the air. The boys stop talking and raise their hands in the air too until everyone is silent. Talking loud to try to quiet the boys usually only causes the noise level to increase.



Body Language

Below are more ideas for reacting properly to the boys' actions.

-  Keeping boys on task: Quietly and slowly approach the boy who has become distracted and stand behind him.
-  Confrontation: In a difficult situation with a parent or boy, don't stand face-to-face, because this says, "We are against each other." Rather stand side by side or at least at a ninety degree angle. This suggests, "We are working on this together."
-  Reactions: Watch the boy's body language. Crossed arms may mean he is not willing to listen to the lesson or information. If a boy is leaning forward, he is most likely very interested.
-  Instructions for games: When giving instructions for games, stand still in front of the boys. Movement of the instructor tells the boys to move.

Touch

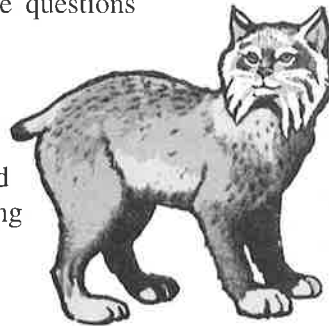
Appropriate touch enhances the commander-boy relationship. These suggestions provide some guidelines.

-  When a commander corrects a boy, the commander needs to explain the proper behavior and then model it.
-  When the boy does the appropriate behavior, the commander can put his hand gently on the boy's shoulder and say, "Very well done." This touch is equated with appropriate behavior.
-  When boys are working together and behaving properly, make a point of touching the boys by shaking their hands, touching their heads, or gently grasping their shoulders to acknowledge the proper behavior.

Verbal Responses

Commanders also need to use words when reacting to a situation in the room. Here are some tips for using your voice in these situations.

- Your voice should be low, in control, and calm. Unless an emergency or other important message needs to be made, yelling should not be used in managing boys.
- Talk in a conversational manner. When a group is getting too loud, the commander should whisper or lower his voice. This will gain the boys' attention.
- Try to ignore a boy who is yelling, and instruct the group that the appropriate way to ask a question or get your attention is to raise a hand. If a boy continues to yell, move toward him while continuing to teach or work with the other boys and remind him of the rules. Ask him to repeat his question in the appropriate way.
- When a boy is nagging, acknowledge his concerns or fears. He may just need to know he has been heard. Deal with the situation at a later time, instructing the boy on how to be heard.
- When a boy interrupts a conversation you are having with someone else, touch his head or shoulder to acknowledge him while continuing your conversation. When your conversation is over, talk with the boy, remind him of the rules, and attend to his question or need.
- Use questions to engage the boy. Most questions should be open-ended instead of requiring only yes or no answers. Use questions requiring the boys to respond in sentences.
- Avoid arguments with the boys.
- Be very careful when dealing with problems. Don't give an opportunity for lying by asking a boy if he did something wrong. Boys will look to you to be the leader so guard that role. Set aside your personal preferences when settling disputes between the boys. Be as objective as possible.



Feedback

When the boys receive immediate feedback about their learning, they will remember the lesson better. In school, the best method is to take a test, correct it immediately, and discern where knowledge was lacking. Then the learner will have learned from the test and increased his knowledge. In Ranger Kids, a commander can

- Provide immediate feedback by working closely with the boys as they complete the work on their advancements and achievement awards.
- Encourage the boys with positive comments and praise as they fulfill their requirements.

For more information relating to classroom management and behavior issues, see the *Royal Rangers Leaders Manual*.

Leading a Boy to the Savior

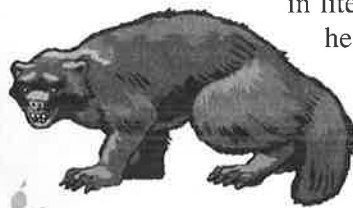
The goal of reaching, teaching, and keeping boys for Jesus Christ must always remain primary. The excitement of the program will generate interest within the community. Boys will tell their friends, who will be eager to be part of a safe, action-filled place to grow. Some boys may walk

through the doors of a church only once, so it is critical to make the most of every opportunity to reach a boy for the Savior. Once a boy has been reached, he will begin to hear the truths of God's Word, learn skills needed to live a fruitful and successful life, and have the opportunity to touch the lives of those around him. The dedication of leaders and the mentoring effect they have will help keep these boys in church.

A boy's readiness to believe in Christ as Savior varies with age, background, understanding, and other individual differences. Whether a boy comes from a Christian home or not, he must first be shown the love of God if he is to feel God's love and respond to the Savior. Patiently, lovingly, "precept upon precept; line upon line; . . . here a little, and there a little" (Isaiah 28:10, KJV), the boy must be taught the concepts necessary for him to understand God's love for him.

Pray and remain sensitive to the boy's needs. Ask the Holy Spirit to help the boy recognize his need of the Savior. Remember, the boy's salvation is not of any person's doing. It is a supernatural work of the Holy Spirit who does His work through others.

Boys need the way of salvation presented simply. Young boys think in literal terms. A boy may be confused by the suggestion that he ask Jesus to come into his heart, wondering how Jesus can literally come into his body. He may be further puzzled about giving his heart to Jesus. It is easier for most boys to understand that they become members of God's family when they believe in the Lord Jesus as their Savior.



Signs of Readiness to Become a Christian

A boy may

- ✧ Have a change in behavior.
- ✧ Have a concern and conviction of sin.
- ✧ Respond to a particular lesson.
- ✧ Need to linger near or after devotions, Bible study, or prayer.
- ✧ Have sincere questions about the death of Christ.
- ✧ Have the intellectual comprehension of the salvation plan.

Your preparation:

- ✧ Believe God wants boys to be born again.
- ✧ Believe that boys must be born again.
- ✧ Believe that the Holy Spirit will convict and convert sinners.
- ✧ Believe that everyone is commissioned to spread the Word. Pray each day for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
- ✧ Memorize Scripture verses.
- ✧ Mark Scripture verses in your Bible.
- ✧ Practice, practice, practice.

Scripture Verses for Leaders to Mark and Memorize

John 1:12: "To all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God."

John 3:16: "God so loved the world that he gave his one and only

Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

Romans 3:23: “All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

Romans 6:23: “The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

1 John 1:9: “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”

Revelation 3:20: “‘Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.’”

Tips in Working With Boys

- ✿ Be a born-again Christian yourself.
- ✿ Give every boy the opportunity to receive Jesus into his heart and become a member of God’s family.
- ✿ Have a Bible or New Testament ready to use at every meeting and outing. Teach a boy about salvation before asking him to become a member of God’s family.
- ✿ Be gentle and sensitive; don’t force, push, or pressure a boy into accepting Christ.
- ✿ Have only one leader at a time talking to a boy about Christ.
- ✿ Keep your breath sweet with gum, mints, etc.

Soul-Winning Plan

Try to talk to a boy one-on-one, a little removed from the rest of the group, but not alone. Sit close enough to the boy to show him verses in your Bible. Use the boy’s name and speak in a relaxed, informal voice.

Admit

Ask the Question

Ask the boy if he wants to go to heaven when he dies. Make sure he understands that just believing in Jesus is not enough.

God’s Infallible Word

Share that the Bible is error-free, and thank God for giving us His Word.

All Have Sinned

Remind the boy that everyone does things that are bad or wrong (Romans 3:23).

Sin Is Death

Tell the boy that we have all done things God does not want us to do, and we will all one day die (Romans 6:23).

Believe

Knowing the Giver

Tell the boy that although we must die one day, we can believe in God and go to heaven to be with Him (Romans 6:23).

Receiving the Gift

It is important not just to believe in God, but also to make a decision to accept this great gift. God wants us to be a part of His family and all we have to do is accept His gift of salvation (John 1:12).

Confess

Confessing our Sins

The first thing we must do is tell God we know we have done many bad things, but we ask Him to forgive us of those bad things (1 John 1:9).

Opening the Door

God wants to be with us and He wants us to be with Him. Just like when we go to a friend's house to eat a meal, God wants us to come, be in His home, be with Him, and become part of His family (Revelation 3:20).

The Invitation

At this point, ask the boy if he would like to become part of God's family.

The Sinner's Prayer

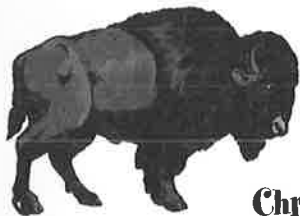
Lead the boy in a simple sinner's prayer.

Double-Checking

Make sure that the boy really understands what he just did, and what Jesus did for him.

Thanking the Giver

As with all gifts, instruct the boy to thank God for forgiving him of his sins and wrongdoings and making him part of God's family.



The Value of a Child

Christ Was a Child

Christ could have entered our world as a mature adult, but He chose to pass through the years of childhood and adolescence and finally emerge into adulthood. Among the Jews, children are appreciated, loved, and nurtured with great care. Josephus, the great Jewish historian, wrote, "Our principal care of all is this, to educate our children well."¹

- Jesus used a child as an example (Matthew 18:3).
- He made time in His busy schedule for children (Mark 10:14).
- Jesus warned against despising them (Matthew 18:10).
- He promised a reward for kindness to children (Matthew 10:42).
- Jesus commanded reception of them (Mark 9:37).

Charles Spurgeon stated, “Young Christians do become the best Christians. Early piety is usually eminent piety; so seek to catch the children while they are young, and train them for the Lord, then they will be ready to serve their generation in their turn.”²

Words That Boys Need to Hear

“I’m so fortunate to have you in my group.”

“You are a great helper.”

“I like it when you try so hard.”

“Let’s talk about it.”

“I’m sorry.”

“You’re special to me.”

“You’re a great kid.”

Ranger Kids provides opportunities for boys to establish and grow in their relationship with Jesus. The program also provides avenues for the commanders to mentor the boys in their group—reaching, teaching, and keeping them for Christ. These meeting plans and additional helps are provided to assist you in this ministry to boys. God bless you as you teach boys how to become young men of God.

Endnotes

¹*The Life and Works of Flavius Josephus*, trans. William Whitson, 1736 (Sage Digital Library), 1822. CD-ROM.

²*The Spurgeon Sermon Collection: 55 Selected Expositions* (Sage Digital Library), 671. CD-ROM.