



THE SIX AREAS OF PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Cubs do not join the pack to be personally developed!! Or to be educated!! They join to have fun and to do things with their friends. The Cub Programme therefore includes activities such as camping, hikes, trekking, nature hikes and cultural visits as well as weekly meetings. The weekly meeting is used for team and confidence building games and to plan and prepare some of the skills needed for the outdoor activities: first aid, mapping, fire lighting and survival.

Through these activities, we as Cub Scout Leaders, need to look into the cub's personal development. The stages we need to look into are:

- Social
- Physical
- Intellectual
- Creative
- Emotional
- Spiritual

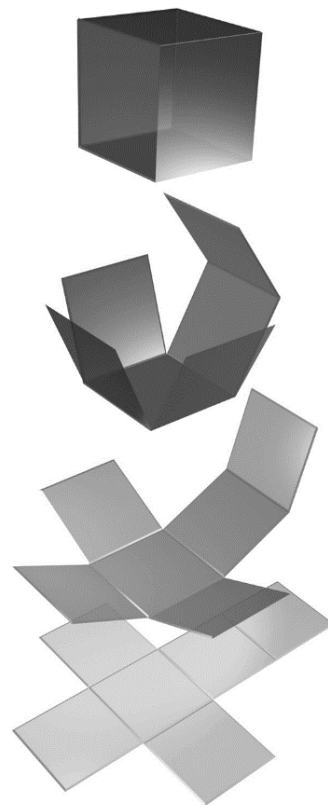
These are otherwise known with the acronym SPICES to easily remember.

Each young person is encouraged to take responsibility for his or her own development.

Let's use the cube diagram and say that the cube is our cub. When the cub joins the pack, he/she will be a closed cube. Scouting helps the child to develop the six areas of his personality. Note that when the cube is fully open, the six faces are identical and are on the same level, just like the six areas of growth described here.

In the same way, when the human personality is developing, the six areas of growth interact with each other, but they can only be described correctly from different perspectives.

It is rather complex to explain these six areas in detail since they emerge in different ways according to the activity at hand. For this reason, below you can find an example of the cubs' can develop in these six areas during a weekend camp.





The Six Areas of Personal Development

Analysed during a Weekend Camp

Social: A camp is a team effort event. Experiences are shared and problems discussed. Living with others in a different way, helps the cub to understand that there are different opinions around him/her and that these should be respected and ultimately learn to be more tolerant.

Physically: During the camp, various physical challenges are confronted. This can contribute to the cub's well being. He/she gets exercise through games out in the fresh air, does chores which build up the body power and much more.

Intellectual: The cubs may have helped in the planning of their weekend camp: menu, games, sessions, etc. During the camp there would be plenty of learning opportunities, decisions to be taken even between the sixes themselves. Looking after each other, and even cope when confronted with different opinions.

Creative: The cubs will have the time and space to safely discover and express their creativity. It can be through a craft, food, games, songs, skits, activities or even by thinking out of the box to solve an issue that cropped up.

Emotional: Being aware of one's emotions is a means of discovering oneself. Controlling aggression towards others, responding in a responsible manner to feelings directed towards oneself and expressing one's feeling using various creative means are all dealt with during a camp.

Spiritual: The challenges faced during a camp often help one learn about one's strengths and weaknesses. Also, contact with nature makes the cub think about a higher power. Prayers and thoughts during the camp help the cub to always think about God in his/her actions and speech.

Together, these six areas help the cub build a strong character. In the case of a camp, the cub learns how to be independent by making things for him/her such as making the bed, washing the plates and other stuff done during a camp. This builds confidence and self-esteem since he/she managed to stay away from home and do things on their own.

We as Scouters must be aware of what we say and how we act in front of our cubs even amongst the leaders themselves. Our attitude and way of talking will be looked upon as being good by our cubs and we have the responsibility to teach and show these kids what the values of a good adult are.

An example like the one above, can be found in every document for every topic. This is to help you as a leader, to make sure that these six areas of development are tackled whenever possible.

