

Why Do Kids Misbehave?

<u>Some common reasons</u>	<u>Some common solutions</u>
<i>They are not sure what is expected of them</i>	<i>Use code of conduct.</i> Make sure that each boy and his parents are aware of the rules. Wearing uniforms, emphasizing the Cub Scout motto and promise all help.
<i>They test limits.</i>	<i>Do you really mean it?</i> Be consistent and fair. Expect to be tested at every meeting. Be good natured about enforcing the rules. Use gimmicks like the conduct candle or marble jar.
<i>They are bored.</i>	<i>Activities should be active.</i> Meetings should be well planned, with lots of short, fun filled items. If something isn't working, switch to plan B. Keep it simple, make it fun.
<i>They want attention.</i>	<i>Give them attention.</i> Use lots of positive statements every meeting. Make sure that each boy gets his chance to shine. Know and use each boy's name. Have several assistants so each boy gets lots of attention.
<i>They try to dominate.</i>	<i>Give them opportunities to control.</i> They should have lots of input to the den code of conduct, the skits they put on at pack meetings, and other activities. Encourage Bear Achievements 15 and 24 at den meetings. Try to be a facilitator rather than a leader.
<i>They are lonely.</i>	<i>Watch out for cliques and little sets that exclude one or more boys.</i> Keep den size small so that a quiet shy kid doesn't get overlooked. Use positive statements and encourage boys to give good will to each other. Encourage Bear Achievement 24d.
<i>They need acceptance</i>	<i>Use ceremonies to build each boy's self image.</i> Use den cheers, den doodles, hi-5's etc. to recognize achievement and to build team spirit in the den. Make a den flag with each boy's name on it. Use Tiger elective 9 to welcome new members.
<i>They want to lead</i>	<i>Give every boy the chance to lead, and support him when he does.</i> Use the offices of denner and assistant denner, have boys lead ceremonies, games and other activities. Use Wolf Achievement 2b, and Bear Achievements 15a, 15c, 24b and 24c as opportunities.
<i>They seek revenge.</i>	Abused or hurt children may lash out - not at their abusers - but at someone they see as vulnerable. <i>You need outside help in this case.</i>