

Safety is more than a checklist—it's a mindset we build together. Whether we're camping, hiking, biking, or serving our communities, our Scouts rely on us to guide them toward safe, responsible choices.

To support that mission, we're excited to share a new set of **scenario-based safety discussions and role-plays** designed specifically for **Cub Scouts and Scouts BSA youth**.

These realistic, age-appropriate situations help Scouts:

- Recognize and respond to unsafe conditions
- Practice using the **SAFE Checklist** (Supervision, Assessment, Fitness & Skill, Equipment & Environment)
- Reference the **Guide to Safe Scouting** in real-time decision-making
- Understand when and how to file an **Incident Report** with the council office

Each scenario includes:

- A detailed setup with a relatable challenge
- Discussion questions to spark learning and reflection
- For Cub-level scouts, role-play prompts to reinforce safe behavior
- A built-in reminder to consider incident reporting when appropriate

These tools are ideal for den meetings, troop activities, youth leadership training, or committee workshops. They're designed to be interactive, practical, and immediately applicable to your unit's program.

Let's continue building a Scouting culture where youth feel confident, prepared, and protected—because safety isn't just a rule, it's a responsibility we share.

Scouts BSA Safety Scenarios & Facilitator Guide

With Guide to Safe Scouting Integration and Incident Reporting

SAFE Checklist Principles

- **Supervision** – Qualified adult supervision at all times
- **Assessment** – Risk assessment for activities and environment
- **Fitness & Skill** – Match activities to participants’ abilities
- **Equipment & Environment** – Use safe gear and monitor surroundings

Learning Objectives

- Apply the Guide to Safe Scouting to real-life situations
- Practice peer leadership and accountability
- Assess risks and make informed decisions
- Reinforce the buddy system and communication
- Understand outdoor safety and emergency response
- Learn how and when to file an Incident Report

Reference Prompt

Before or after each scenario, ask Scouts:

“What does the Guide to Safe Scouting say about this situation?” Encourage them to look up relevant sections (e.g., climbing, camping, buddy system, fire safety, youth protection).

Incident Reporting Requirement

After each scenario, include this step:

“If this happened in real life, what details would need to be reported to the council office?”

Reporting Guidelines:

- **Who reports?** Adult leaders or event coordinators
- **What qualifies?**
 - Injuries requiring medical attention
 - Near misses that could have resulted in harm

- Youth protection concerns or behavioral issues
- Property damage or environmental hazards
- **Where to report?** Use the official Incident Reporting Form
- **Why it matters:** Reporting helps improve safety protocols and ensures appropriate follow-up. It's a responsible action—not a punishment.

The Unplanned Climb

Scenario: During a troop hike in a state park, the group stops for lunch near a rocky outcrop. One Scout, eager to impress others, begins climbing the rocks without checking with the patrol leader or adults. He reaches a ledge about 10 feet up when his foot slips. He scrapes his arm and twists his ankle, but manages to climb down with help. The adults were distracted helping another Scout with gear and didn't see the climb begin.

Complication: The Scout insists he's fine and doesn't want to "make a big deal." The patrol leader is unsure whether to report the incident or not.

SAFE Focus:

- Assessment
- Supervision
- Fitness & Skill
- Equipment & Environment

Guide Reference: [Climbing.and.Rappelling.Safety.Guidelines](#)

Discussion Questions:

- What should the Scout have done before climbing?
- What does the Guide say about climbing activities and supervision?
- Should this incident be reported to the council office? Why or why not?

Incident Report Requirement: This incident involves a fall and injury. An Incident Report **must** be submitted to the council office.