

KIM

The name “Kim” is closely associated with Scouting. In 1901, Rudyard Kipling (author of *The Jungle Book*), wrote a novel called Kim about the adventures of a Scout-aged boy in India. Although he’s not directly part of the jungle theme, there is a close relationship, and Cubs are familiar with the Kim theme through activities such as Kim’s games. Kipling’s story can be a valuable base for introducing Kim to your program.

Requirements

- Usually a second or third-year Scout
- Demonstrates reliability and responsibility
- Has enough time to devote to the position
- Sets a good example for Cubs
- Communicates well with both Cubs and adults

Duties

- Act as liaison between pack and troop, informing leaders of each section’s activities
- Help with crafts, games, stories, etc.
- Introduce older Cubs to Scouting to make their transition from pack to troop easier
- Participate in the Swim-Up Ceremony
- Join in pack activities and work with sixes
- Help Cubs with Scout requirements to facilitate their investiture into the troop
- Act as a link between pack and troop at joint functions

Uniform

Kim wears a regular Scout uniform.

Selecting Kim

When you select a Scout for this position, ask the youth to fill the role for a set period of time; this may be for one Cubbing season or at least six months. More frequent changes don’t give Cubs a chance to get to know Kim well enough.

Begin with an agreement that, if the Scout doesn’t like the job after a month or the leaders feel the youth isn’t performing as expected despite their guidance and training, the Kim will be excused. Bear in mind that this Scout is already committed to the troop, school, and probably other activities as well.

As a member of the pack leadership team, Kim is entitled to explanation and guidance on what the job involves and how best to do it. Make the Scout fully aware that he or she is

part of the leadership team and expected to help plan pack meetings and programs. Give Kim training, and encourage the youth to take any council courses designed for the Kim position, but not adult training programs. *The Kim Book* explains this role in youthful language; it also serves as a workbook, and becomes a memento of Kim's assignment.

The Kim role is an important growing experience for a Scout. It gives the youth a chance to work with a team of adults in program planning. Also, it gives Kim an opportunity to see the results of his or her work in the pack meeting. Your Kim can develop and use inherent leadership skills by helping Cubs think for themselves. It provides the Scout an opportunity to contribute to Scouting.

Remember to show Kim that you appreciate his or her contribution to your pack.